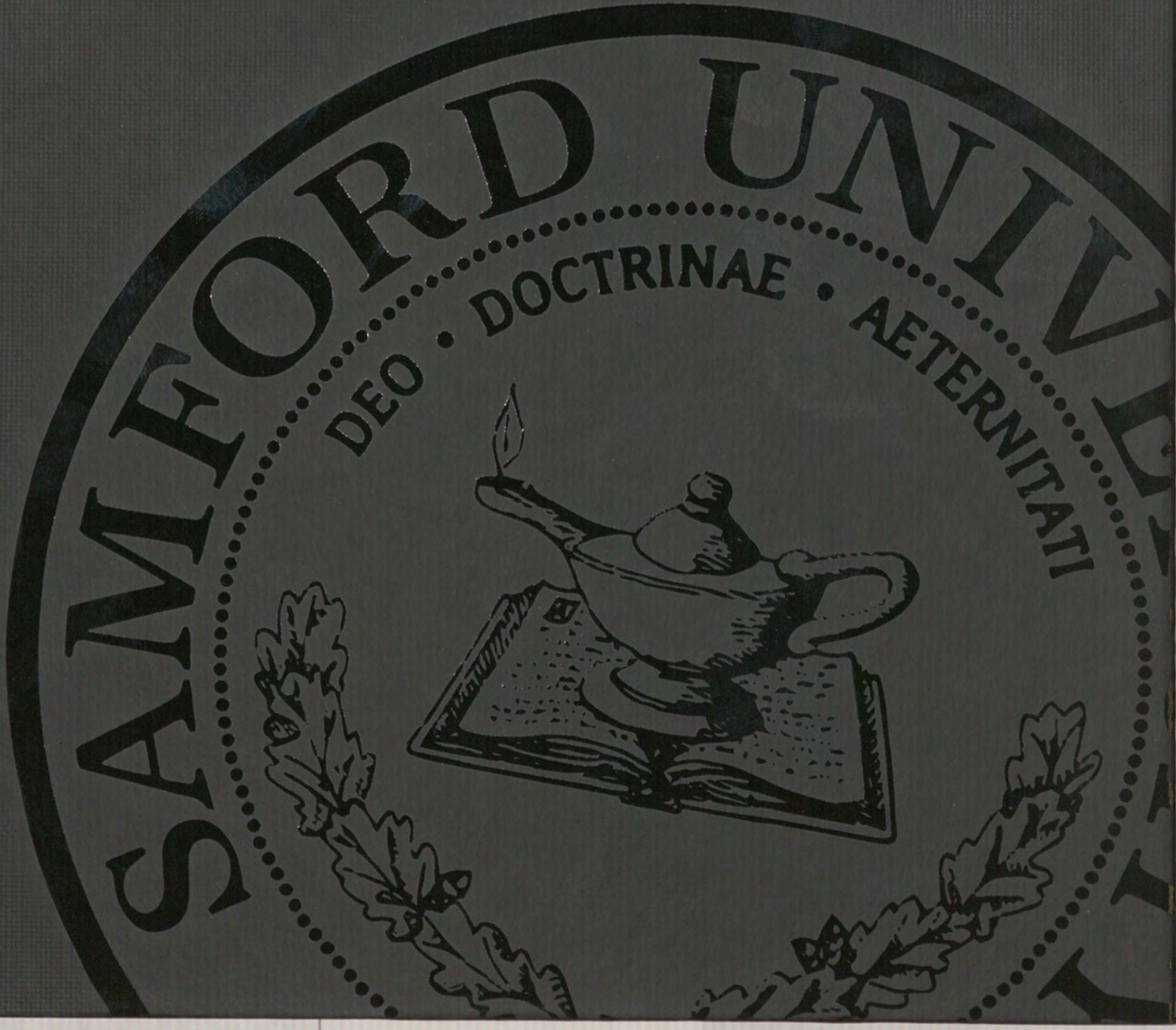
SAMFORD UNIV
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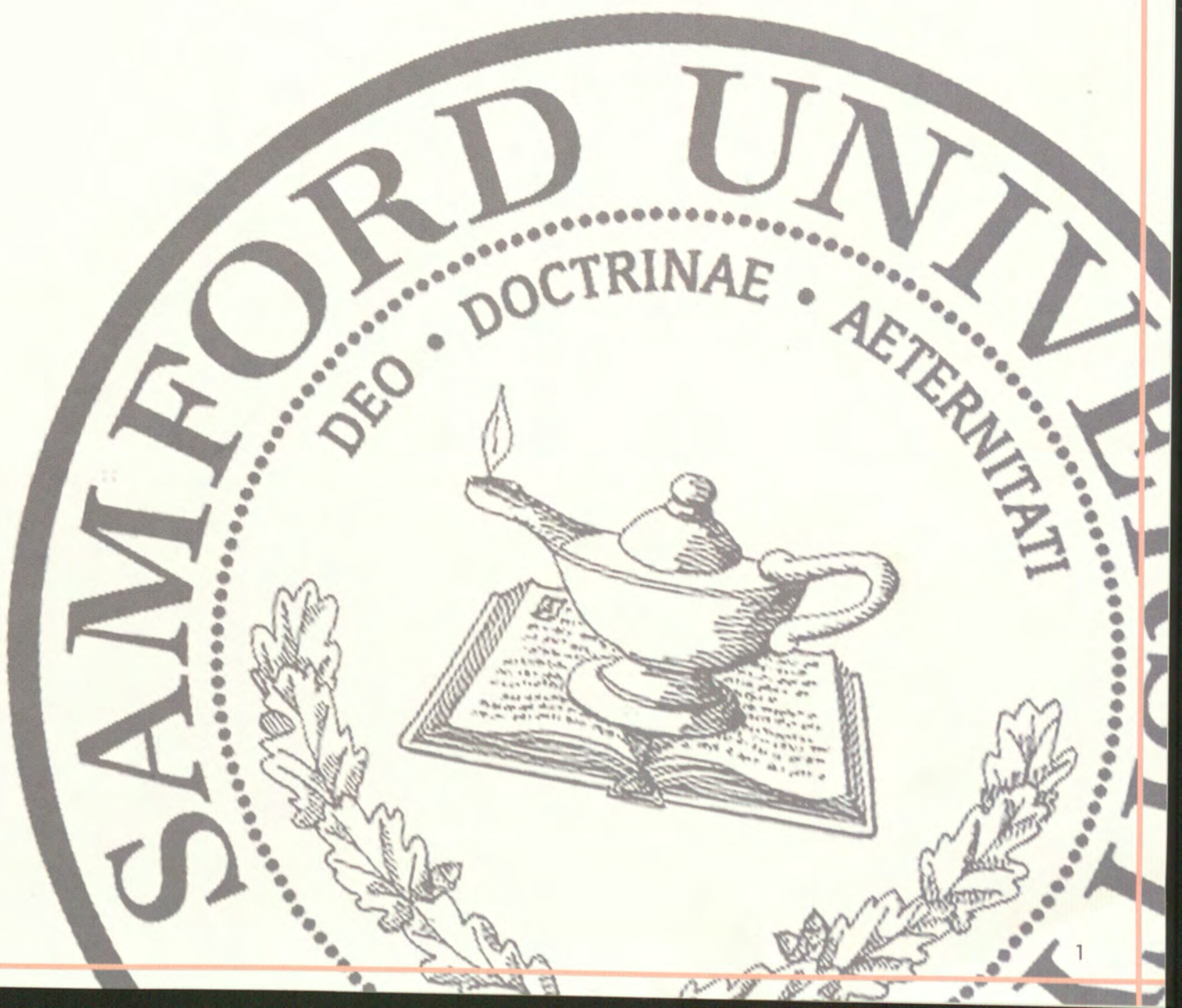
# Entre Nous
# Samford University
# 2014 - 2015
# Volume 95



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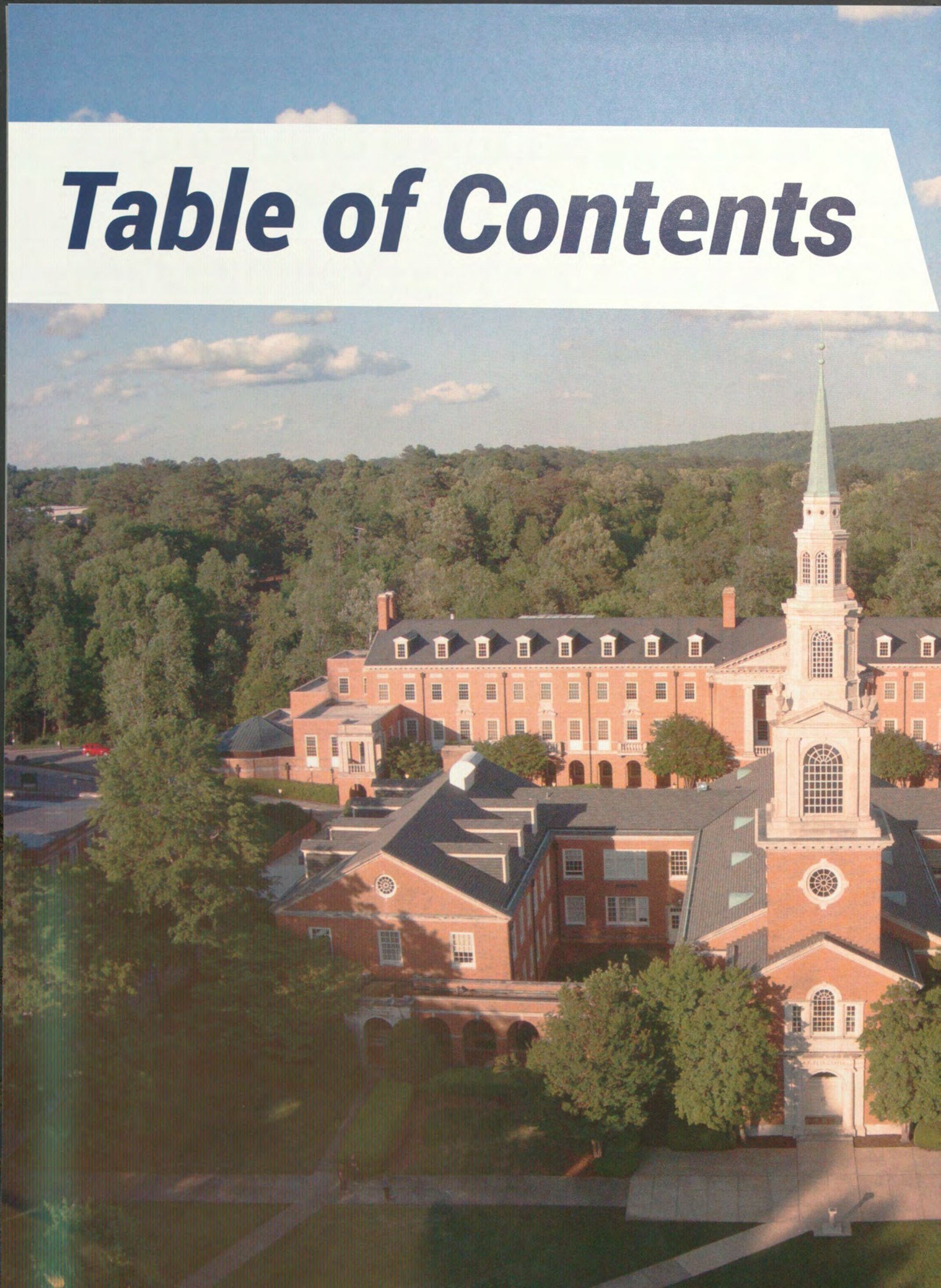

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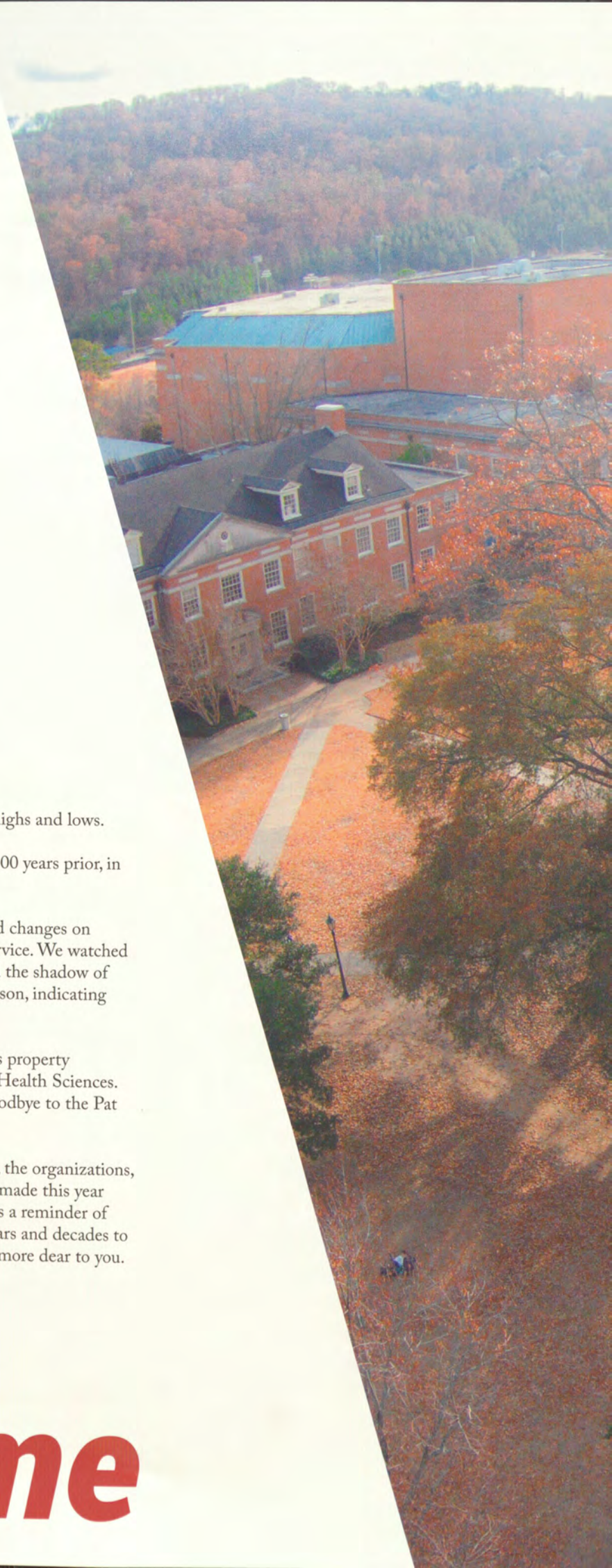


50 years of Samford University.

50 years of faith, friendships, memories, classes, ups, downs, highs and lows.

Though Samford existed as Howard College for more than 100 years prior, in 1965, the university was renamed as we know it today.

2014-2015 was a year of continued traditions but also marked changes on campus. We came back in the fall to a new campus dining service. We watched as the new Brock School of Business rose before our eyes and the shadow of a construction crane loomed behind our photos with Mr. Beeson, indicating promise and new beginnings.

We celebrated when Samford acquired the Southern Progress property adjacent to campus, an exciting expansion for the College of Health Sciences. We cheered on our Bulldogs throughout the year and said goodbye to the Pat Sullivan era of Bulldog football.

It's our hope that this book provides a snapshot of the events, the organizations, the classes, the groups, but most importantly, the people that made this year what it was. As you flip through its pages, we hope it serves as a reminder of the mission and meaning of this university and that in the years and decades to come, this book and the university it represents only become more dear to you.

**Rachel Stanback**
**Entre Nous Editor-In-Chief**

# Welcome

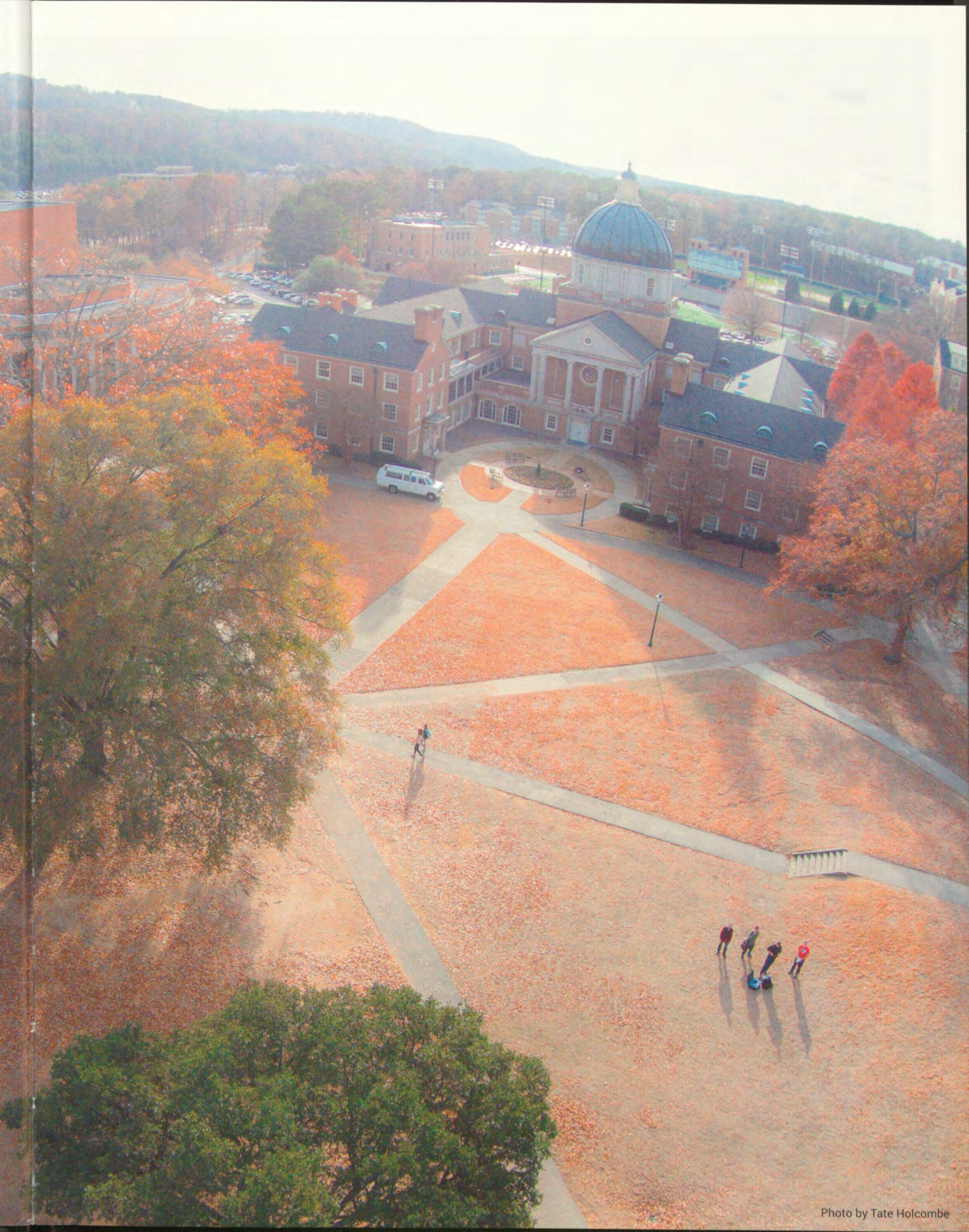
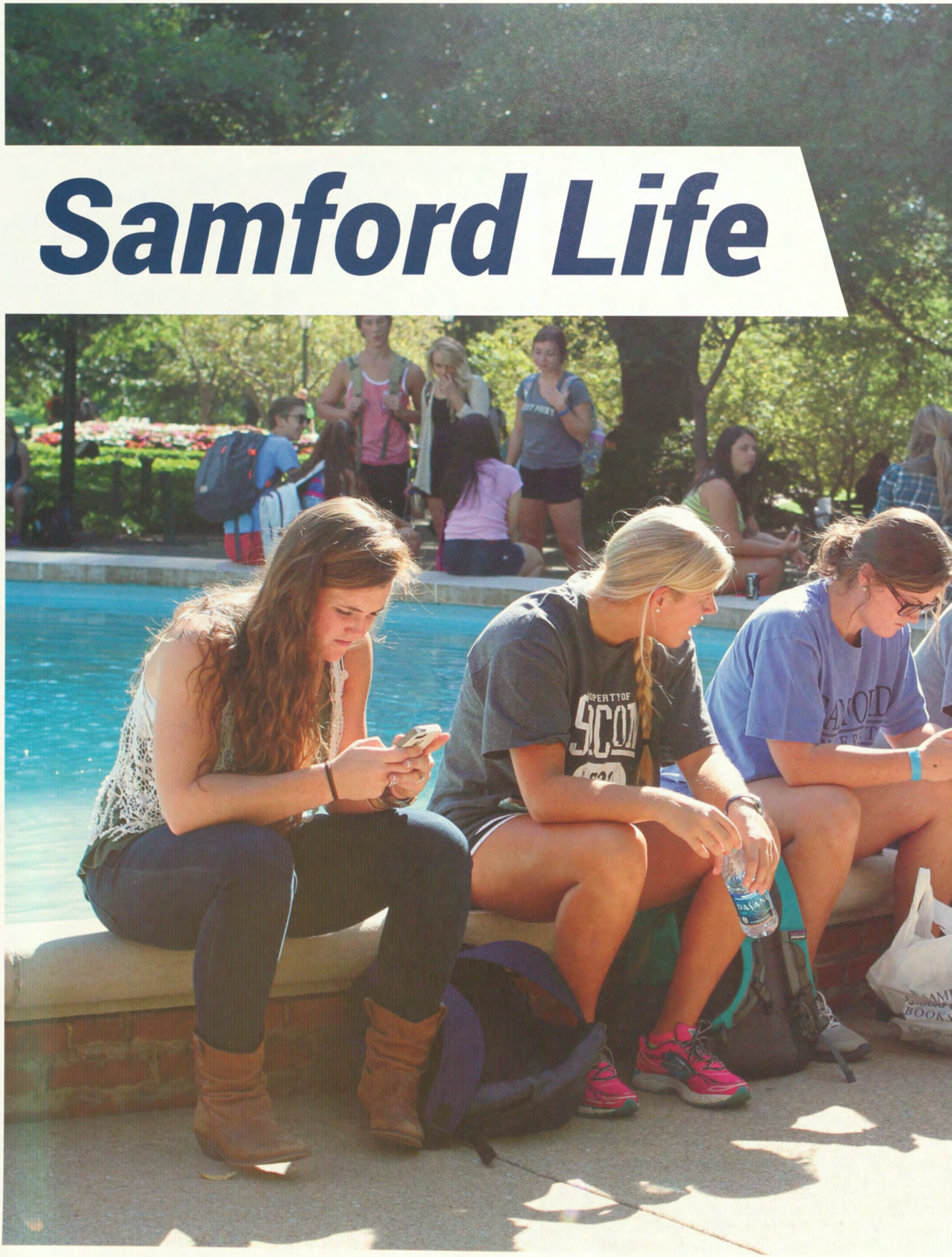


Photo by Tate Holcombe

# Samford Life



# Samford Life News

## Homecoming parade to be replaced

*October 8, 2014*
*Emily Featherston*

Homecoming festivities will look slightly different this year as the pre-game parade of student organizations is replaced by a "display board" competition.

"After polling members of the student body and speaking with various on campus partners, we decided it was not in the best interest of Samford to continue with the homecoming parade," Beth Roller, director of student activities and campus events, said.

The change comes as part of an effort by the Campus Life staff to expand participation in homecoming activities to a greater number of on-campus organizations.

The displays will be displayed on Ben Brown Plaza and be judged on the Saturday morning of homecoming weekend, and the winners will be announced at the tailgate and again at the football game.

Winning organizations will also get cash prizes added to their Samford agency accounts, with the first-prize winner receiving $750, the second-prize winner receiving $500 and third place receiving $250.

"Our hope is this new direction will allow more opportunities for more student organizations to be represented and take part in this new tradition," Roller said.

The display boards will be eight feet by eight feet, and the Office of Campus Life will provide materials for either painted or tissue paper boards.

Work on the boards can begin no earlier than Monday, Oct. 27, giving groups less than a week to finish before homecoming weekend begins.

## Exclusive: Samford to buy Southern Progress building

*November 3, 2014*
*Sydney Cromwell*

President Andrew Westmoreland said that Samford has signed a letter of intent with Time, Inc. to buy the Southern Progress buildings and their 28-acre property.

In an August meeting, when the deal was still only a possibility, Westmoreland said he would like to use the two buildings nearest to campus for classrooms for the College of Health Sciences, which includes the McWhorter School of Pharmacy, the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing and the Schools of Health Professions and Public Health. The purchase would also open up new parking options.

The Southern Progress offices will be moved to the third building, which is farthest from campus, and Time will rent the space from the university. Some rooms in the other two buildings could also be leased out until Samford programs expand to fill the space.

The three buildings total 398,000 square feet and the lot's parking deck has over 1,000 spaces, which could be shared between students and tenants.

Westmoreland said the university will create vehicle and pedestrian access to the new buildings so students will not have to use Lakeshore Drive to get to class.

Time began looking at selling the buildings in May. Since Samford originally owned the land, the university had the right to make the first bid. Over the summer, Westmoreland and Vice President for Financial Affairs Buck Brock flew to New York to discuss a possible purchase with Time executives.

Westmoreland said that the deal made today includes 45 days of due diligence before closing, so the purchase will not be completed until near the end of the year. It will likely take a full year to move into the new space, and Westmoreland anticipated the earliest date to begin classes in the new buildings would be spring or summer 2016. The university has not decided whether that move will be made all at once or in phases.

Employees at Southern Progress were informed of the sale today at 4 p.m., and Westmoreland plans to send more detailed information out to students and faculty later today.

# Davis Lecture to feature the science of compassionate love and altruism

*October 8, 2014*
*Megan Light*

This year Samford is hosting best-selling author Stephen G. Post for the annual J. Roderick Davis Lecture.

Post will present "The Power of Compassionate Love," sponsored by the Center for Science and Religion, in the Wright Center Oct. 9 at 7:30 p.m.

Assistant Dean of Spiritual Life and Campus Minister Matt Kerlin confirmed that the 2014 Davis Lecture will count as convocation credit this year. Last year, after attending the lecture on traumatic brain injuries, many students were displeased to learn that it did not count for convo credit.

Steven Donaldson, senior fellow of Samford's Center for Science and Religion, said that Post was chosen for this year's lecture because of his unique approach to researching altruism.

"You hear over and over again that you have to be loving person, especially in the Samford culture," Donaldson said. He said students and faculty can learn from Post how to improve on giving compassionate love to others.

Post is the president of the Institute for Research on Unlimited Love, a foundation that explores the healing powers of love. Donaldson said that many scholars claim there is no true altruism, but Post's research challenges that notion.

The goal of the institute and Post's work is to show that loving and giving unselfishly is possible and that it benefits the individual.

Donaldson also said that this is the first year that the Center for Science and Religion was chosen to sponsor the Davis Lecture, and they wanted to be able to present a speaker who studies from a scientific perspective.

Senior religion major Richard Shaw appreciates Post's research on compassionate love and that his approach does not focus on any single religion.

"I am really excited that Post is focusing on helping every human being, instead of one group who have a particular set of ideals," Shaw said.

Along with the Davis Lecture, Post will lead several discussions and events with several groups on campus such as Beeson Divinity School and University fellows. A complete list of Post's events can be found on the Center for Science and Religion website, www.samford.edu/scienceandreligion.

# Orientation

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Cameron Gonzalez and Rachel Stanback*

Bulldog Days was Samford's new student orientation program, where incoming students experienced their first taste of the SU family. Due to the record-breaking size of this year's freshman class, nine Samford students served as Orientation Leaders (OL) to plan and facilitate the orientation experience.

In addition to their responsibilities directly related to orientation, the OL year-long commitment included serving as student representatives at the Office of Admission's send-off parties all around the country and attending Summer Adventure, a chance for incoming students to explore the outdoors and expand their leadership potential while getting to know their fellow classmates.

Cameron Gonzalez, a sophomore business major, explained the uniqueness of Samford's orientation experience. "The OLs are completely responsible for the planning and execution of Bulldog Days. Few other programs in the country place this much importance on their orientation staff, and that is what makes it a great opportunity for current Samford students to apply to be an OL."

The student-focused sessions benefited the new students as well. "A program is tailored to them, by students, who know what it is like to walk in their shoes," Gonzalez said.

Before each event, the orientation team designed and approved print material, stuffed every individual bag that each student and parent received and phoned all the students before each session, all while enjoying working alongside one another.

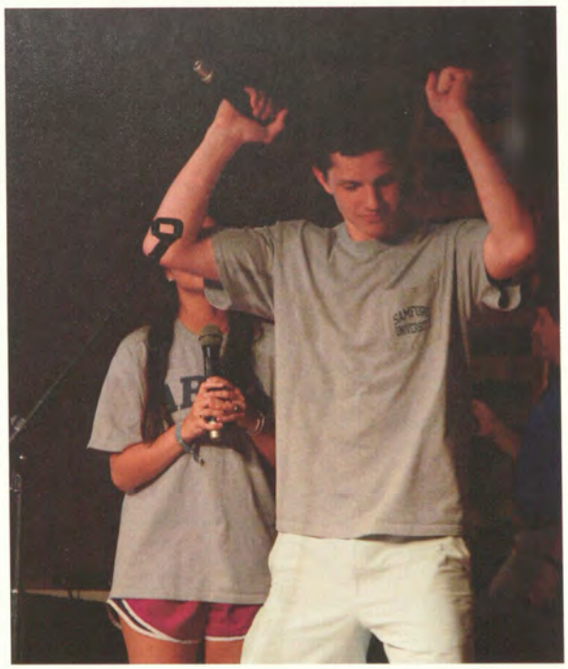
Courtney Guhl and Rachel Stanback, both senior journalism and mass communication majors, returned for their second summer, taking on the role of senior OL.

After her second summer, Guhl described this year's experience by saying, "The 2014 orientation team had an extremely unique energy. The balance of personalities worked perfectly and resulted in a team that was able to work flawlessly behind the scenes, in front of the families and also off the job." From the team retreat to group outings at Waffle House or camping at Oak Mountain, running errands together and everything in-between, this year's team shared a unique bond.

"Getting a class schedule, staying in the dorms and meeting future classmates makes college feel real, which is both nerve-racking and exciting. The orientation leaders do everything we can to make that transition as smooth and enjoyable as possible," Stanback said. «

Samford University ORIENTATION 5
Samford University ORIENTATION 9
Samford University ORIENTATION 6
Samford University ORIENTATION 7
Samford University ORIENTATION 3
Samford University ORIENTATION 2
Samford University ORIENTATION 4

Below: Freshman Matthew Jordan took the stage during karaoke after the first day of Orientation.



Above: Orientation Leaders Alex Fortanbary and Ashley Lyon helped plan a "Late Night Luau" at Orientation.
Left: New students gathered in Brock Forum for an orientation session.

# Connections

*Article by Haley Collins, Photos by Emily Elder and Anna Grace Rutledge*

After the rush of emotions that followed Move-In Day, freshmen started Connections weekend, a time to meet other new students and get to know their new home.

"It was really nice to be so busy that weekend so that I wouldn't think about the daunting change that was moving into college," freshman speech pathology major Nicole Klaubert said.

While activities were not mandatory, most students chose to participate in the various events in order to better get to know the people in their class. Students had the opportunity to get to know their classmates in a smaller group setting and many older students said that some of their best friends were those they met during Connections weekend.

Freshman chemistry major Justin Lynch said, "Even though I'm not best friends with some of the people in my Connections group, I love being able to see them out on campus and being able to just say hey and have a quick conversation with them without feeling awkward."

This year, one of the most memorable activities was the LIFE seminar where freshmen were placed in Bashinsky gym and given a taste of what college life felt like. Multiple tables sprawled throughout the gym each represented a different aspect of college life, such as clubs, intramurals, academics and other campus involvement. Freshmen had the intimidating task of trying to check off as many items as they could from the list of all the possible activities. With all the chaos and pressure to get the list checked off, the freshmen got a first-hand experience of the madness and stress of freshman year.

Connections was not only a fun time for the freshmen to connect, but also the upperclassmen leaders.

"As a leader, it allows you to fall in love with Samford all over again," senior musical theater major Neely Scott said. "I mean, how can you not connect when you're spending a weekend packed full of fun with a group of freshmen who are so enjoyable to be around?"

Overall, Connections weekend provided a great way to welcome the new freshmen and help them get to know each other in a casual and fun setting. «

Right: Connections Coordinators planned and led the events of the weekend.

Left page, top: Connections leaders Annie Cave, Kaley Cusumano and Emily Elder joined the fun at a neon dance party. Above: More than 90 upperclassmen served as Connections leaders. Left: The ladies of Group 18, led by Grace Mintz, gathered for a photo op.

Students enjoyed a variety of food and giveaways.
Below: McKenzie Babb
Bottom: Rebekah Mathews
Right: Laura Valby and Sydnee Wisler showed off Welcome Back Week t-shirts.

# Welcome Back Week

*Article by Riley Ford, Photos by Emily Ferrara*

As they held on to the last few days of summer, students were able to ease back into life at Samford with Welcome Back Week. The Student Activities Council (SAC) made an effort to bring students the food and activities that are unique to the Steel City.

"Having students feel right at home and excited about Samford and Birmingham is one of the main goals for having a week long event at the beginning of the fall semester," Paige Acker, coordinator of student activities and events, said.

Director of Annual Events and junior history major Julia Simmons said, "This year we wanted to welcome everyone to both Samford and Birmingham. Our Welcome Back Week activities focused on showing Samford students some fun areas of Birmingham so they could feel comfortable in their college home."

The week included free giveaways in Ben Brown Plaza from Crestline Bagel, Heavenly Donuts, Doodle's, Milo's and Jim 'n Nicks. Activities continued in the evening with free tickets for the dollar theater and Steel City Pops, both staple Birmingham hot spots.

"Getting free food the first week of class is always a pleasant surprise," said junior sports administration major Mitchell Smith. «

Below: Students enjoyed Doodle's in Ben Brown Plaza.

Left: Austin Ferrer enjoyed Crestline Bagel in Ben Brown Plaza.
Above: American Idol winner Phillip Phillips headlined the Your School, Your City concert, held at the Samford Intramural Complex for the first time.

# Family Weekend

*Article by Riley Ford, Photos by Emily Ferrara and Lydia Smith*

After getting settled back into campus life, it was time to invite parents of current students back to experience the joys of being a Bulldog. For many freshmen, this was their first chance to show their families how Samford had become their new home.

Julia Dirckx, a freshman communication studies major, said, "I'm from California, so I hadn't been home since classes began. Family Weekend was rejuvenating having my parents come to campus."

Family Weekend provided parents and students with a flexible schedule of activities in which they could participate. The weekend consisted of a movie on the Quad, tailgating, productions of "The Wind and the Willows" and a women's soccer game against East Tennessee State University.

"It was nice to be able to see our daughter and her friends that we have heard about over the past year. We had a wonderful time taking a peek into what campus life is like for Morgan," Jill Ohlinger, mother of sophomore biology major Morgan Ohlinger, said.

The Parents Association hosted its annual breakfast with administrators and President Andy Westmoreland.

The pinnacle of the weekend was the football game against new SoCon rival, Mercer. Siebert Stadium sold out for the first time all season and Bulldog fans cheered the team to a win.

"Winning is always good, but winning conference games are great. I think we showed Mercer what the Southern Conference is all about," said quarterback and junior communication studies major Michael Eubank. «

Above: Freshman Claire Jaggers and her family at the Family Weekend tailgate.

Above: Senior Jenny Lorentz and her family gather outside the University Center.
Left: Junior Ashley Lyon and her parents on the Quad.

# Homecoming

*Article by Riley Ford, Photos by Lydia Smith and Lilli Mimbs*

With Homecoming Weekend comes a long line of tradition, but this year brought some new additions to the schedule. After a fun-filled week of festivities, campus was filled with students and their families ready to cheer on the Bulldogs on Saturday afternoon. Alumni returned to their alma mater to reunite with friends and faculty.

"I loved seeing old friends again. It's always great to have a friend visit you on campus, but it's even more special when everyone around you is a part of the same experience," sophomore journalism and mass communication major Maddie Sundberg said.

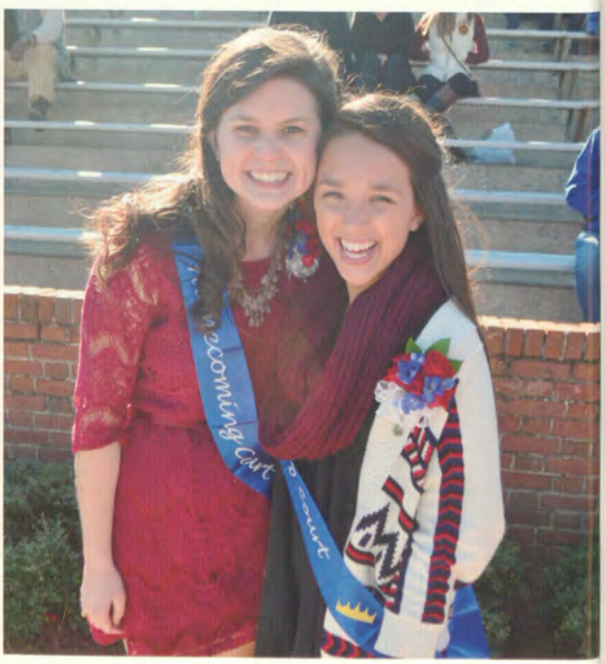
In place of the parade, this year Homecoming boards were designed by many campus organizations. Each board had a theme to help cheer on the Bulldogs to victory. Members of each organization volunteered time out of their week to come together and create their masterpiece. Each board was put on display in Ben Brown Plaza for judging. The Crew team took home first place, and Phi Mu received second place.

Come Saturday afternoon, the quad was covered once again with tents, food, students and families for tailgating. The weekend rounded out with a win against Concordia College 55-0.

"The football game was my favorite part of the weekend," freshman health sciences major Alyssa Lane said.

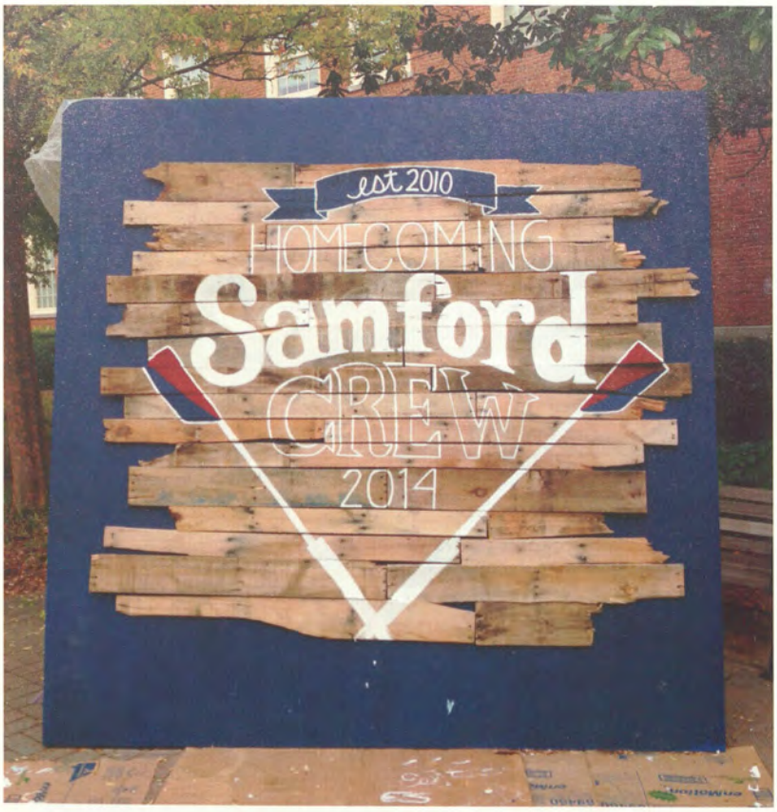
"The tailgate had a great turnout, and having Emmy winner and Samford alumnus Tony Hale on campus after the game made the weekend even more special," sophomore journalism and mass communication major McLane Evans said.

During homecoming, friends, family and entertainment came together to create one of the most valued traditions at Samford. «




Top: (L-R) Emily Kelley, Will Yarborough, Queen Hannah Newman, King John Hunsicker, Christine Carrier, and Clay Hubbard represented the senior class on Homecoming court.
Above: The Homecoming court representatives from each class.
Right: Junior Mary Leslie Prater and sophomore Mackenzie Davis represented their classes on Homecoming court.

Left Samford Crew took home the first place prize for their Homecoming board. Below: Humming House played at Friday night's concert.



# Miss Samford

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

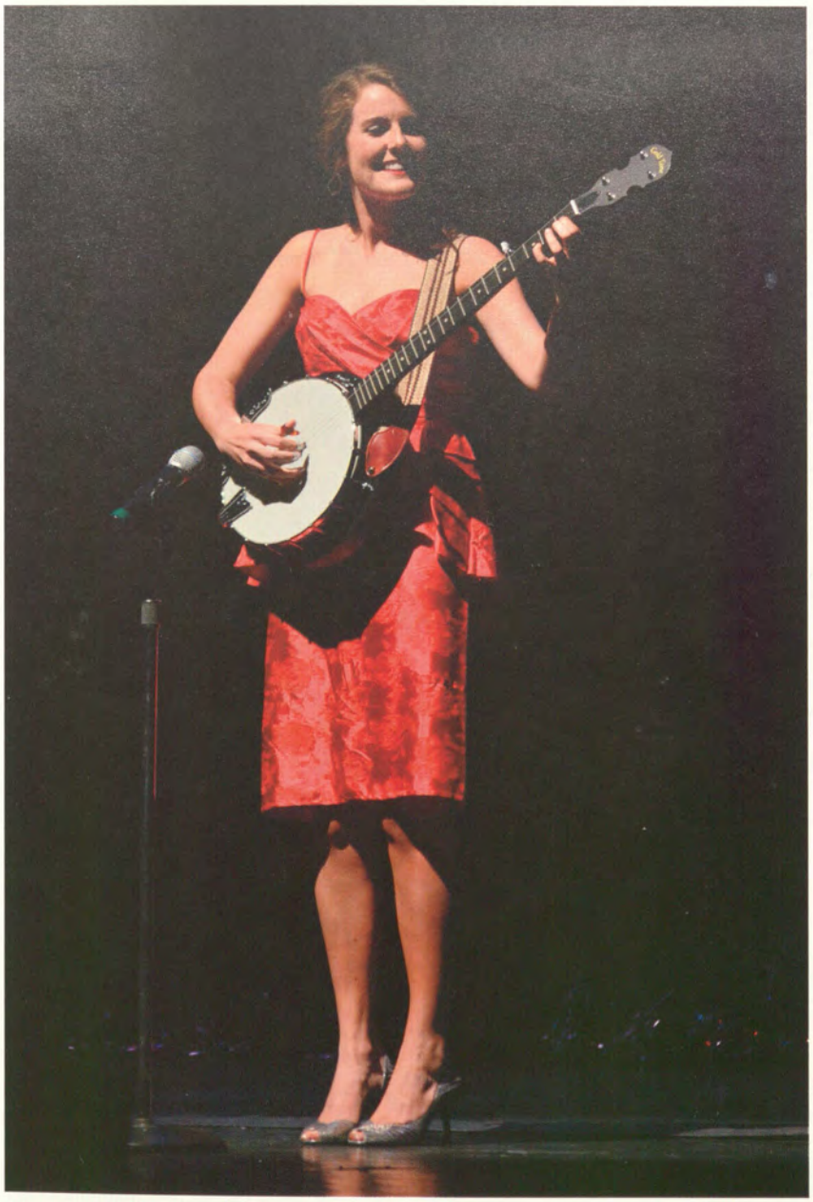
On Friday, Oct. 24, some of Samford's most wonderful women took to the Wright Center stage to compete for the title of Miss Samford 2015 and the chance to represent the university in the Miss Alabama scholarship pageant. Madison Smith, a sophomore theatre major, took the crown. Thomason Bryan, a freshman communication sciences and disorders major, placed first-runner up. Marty Desforges, a junior communication sciences and disorders major, was named second runner-up.

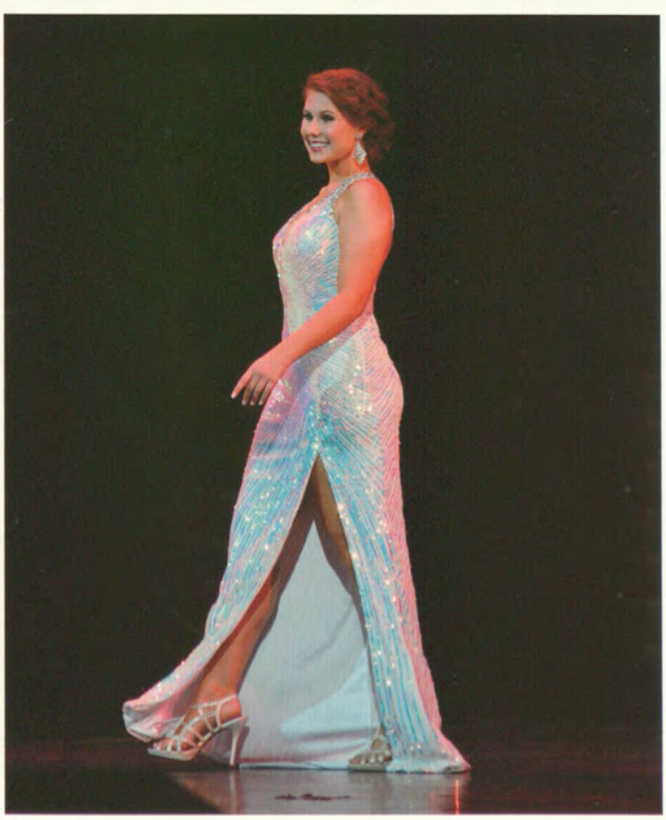
Bryan described the Miss Samford pageant as being about "involvement in something bigger than yourself, because you are not competing to win a crown; you are competing to make a difference in your school, community, state and the lives you encounter daily." She considered participating in the pageant "an amazing opportunity" because "you grow closer to the girls you are competing with, as well as having the chance to promote a platform that is near and dear to your heart."

Desforges placed second runner-up but also won the Spirit of Miss Samford award.

"The pageant process truly helped me with my stage presence, kept me in shape, encouraged me keep up with current events and afforded me the opportunity to meet amazing women," she said. Desforges' platform was Williams Syndrome Awareness, a cause that is "near and dear to her heart."

Not only did Smith win the overall crown, but she also won the talent competition with her vocal performance of "Don't Rain on My Parade" from the musical "Funny Girl," as well as the lifestyle and fitness competition. Her chosen platform was Dance for Down Syndrome, which is the sibling program of Down Syndrome Alabama. Smith said the real reason she desired to be Miss Samford and compete in the Miss Alabama System was "to share her platform, what is close to her heart, and the light and love of God with other people." The reigning Miss Samford competed for the title of Miss Alabama in June.«





Left page, top: Emcee McClain McKinney presents flowers to Shea Summerlin, Miss Samford 2014.
Left page, bottom: Alex DaPont performs in the talent portion.
Left: Thomason Bryan performs her onstage talent.
This page, top left: Cecily Young plays the banjo during the talent portion.
Top: Madison Smith performs her award-winning vocal performance of "Don't Rain on My Parade."
Left: Susie Coffee competes wduring the evening wear portion.
Above: Susie Coffee performs her talent.

Right: Seniors Will Yarborough and Eleanor Stenner narrated Hanging of the Green.
Below: The Vespers performed on Centennial Walk following Lighting of the Way.

Above: Students gathered in Ben Brown Plaza for refreshments following the Lighting of the Way concert.
Right: Hanging of the Green senior honoree Patrick Ramsay added a chrismon to the tree.

# Christmas at Samford

*Article by Kristen Jackson, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

Christmas time was a jolly time at Samford. Reid Chapel was dressed in green garland and red ribbon in preparation for the Hanging of the Green service. Faculty and students broke away from the books to celebrate the Christmas season as a community with Scripture readings and Christmas songs. Seniors were honored, and beloved alumni returned to celebrate the season in community.

"I was involved in University Chorale and enjoyed singing some of our favorite Christmas hymns," junior sociology major Morgan Rhodes said.

Following the service, every sidewalk across the quad was lined with luminaries for Lighting of the Way. Students gathered around the tree on Centennial Walk for the reading of the Christmas story by Dr. Westmoreland. The tree was lit and students gathered around the stage to hear the band play. Ben Brown Plaza was set up with multiple chocolate fountains and warm seasonal drink stations.

"My favorite thing about Christmas time at Samford was going out to eat with my some of my friends and opening presents together after Hanging of the Green and Lighting of the Way. Christmas at Samford is always fun, and celebrating it with my friends makes it even more special," sophomore elementary education major Kristen Fuller said.

"School is stressful with exams during that time, but the beautiful lights and tree and the ability for all the students to get together for celebratory events lets you know that Christmas is right around the corner," junior pre-veterinary major Caroline Mefford said. «

Left: Students sang hymns in Reid Chapel during the Hanging of the Green service.
Above: The University Chorale performed as part of the program.

# Step Sing

*Article by Aly Hathcock, Photos by Aly Hathcock and Harrison Tarabella*

Step Sing, one of Samford's favorite traditions, took place in mid-February, but the process of planning this spectacular weekend began almost a year in advance.

Overall Step Sing directors, seniors Claire Tolbert and Scottie Lenning, along with a student committee and the Student Activities office, oversaw the production from start to finish.

"It was the best feeling to see it all come together and watch each group show off what they had been preparing for so long," Lenning said.

One of the biggest additions to this year's production was the use of custom background images for each show projected on to the Wright Center stage. Each group chose up to four images that developed their themes and storylines to display during their performances.

This year's performances brought crowds to their feet time and time again. Pirates fought on high seas, squires battled dragons to become knights, NASCAR cars crashed and starving neanderthals fought for food.

From choosing a theme, costumes, music and choreography, to directing a group of peers, producing and directing Step Sing was no easy task.

Senior human development and family science major Melanie Neff directed Indie Ladies' show.

"With Indie Ladies this year we had to rework our theme three different times to get the end result that we had envisioned," Neff said. "It takes a lot of hard work, but it is always so worth it in the end."

After Banner Drop revealed each show's title, the Step Sing madness ensued. For the following weeks, participants sang and practiced choreography around the clock. Step Sing wasn't just about singing and dancing in costume, though. It was about making new friends, building a community and developing leadership.

"Step Sing is without a doubt one of the best ways to make friends and build real community," senior finance major and Dudes-A-Plenty director Jay Morris said.

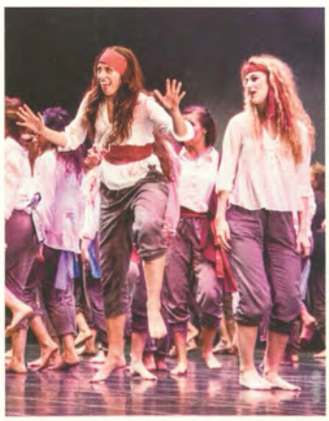
"That's why I love it and have put so much of my time into it." «

Top: Step Sing committee poses at the photo booth during the Banner Drop party.
Above: Sigma Chi closes out their Sweepstakes-winning show.
Right: Pi Kappa Phi performs "Trashin' the Camp".

## Freshman Ladies

*Globetrotters*

The Freshman Ladies took us on a tour of some of the top tourist destinations in the U.S. as they presented "Globetrotters." Wearing tacky tourist clothing complete with infamous fanny packs, the FL participants put on an impressive Step Sing show.



## Zeta Tau Alpha

*On the Hunt*

It was a pirate's life for the ladies of Zeta Tau Alpha as they sailed the seas and battled each other for buried treasure. Throughout the entire show, ZTA had the audience sitting at the edge of their seats, waiting to see who would emerge victorious from this battle at sea.

## Alpha Tau Omega

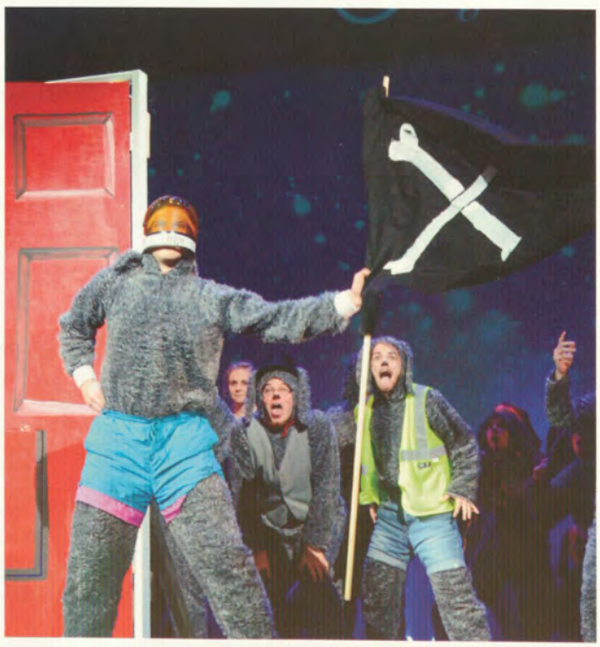
*How to Save a Life*

The fraternity's inaugural show did not disappoint. The lifeguards of ATO took home the prize for "Best Moment" for Patrick O'Connor's unexpected onstage kiss. From the Beach Boys' "Surfin' U.S.A." to an onstage ballet, the brothers stole hearts with their performance.

## Alpha Delta Pi

*Roar*

The pit crew of Alpha Delta Pi raced to the finish line with a NASCAR-themed show. Together they survived the terrors of NASCAR racing, including a broken-down vehicle, to end the show as champions.



## Dudes-A-Plenty

*Unleashed*

In this dog-eat-dog competition, Dudes-A-Plenty won the hearts of audiences everywhere. Tear-jerking moments, such as the reunion of "Blue's Clues" Steve and his lost pup, made this show one to remember. Never forget that you've got a friend in D-A-P.

## Chi Omega

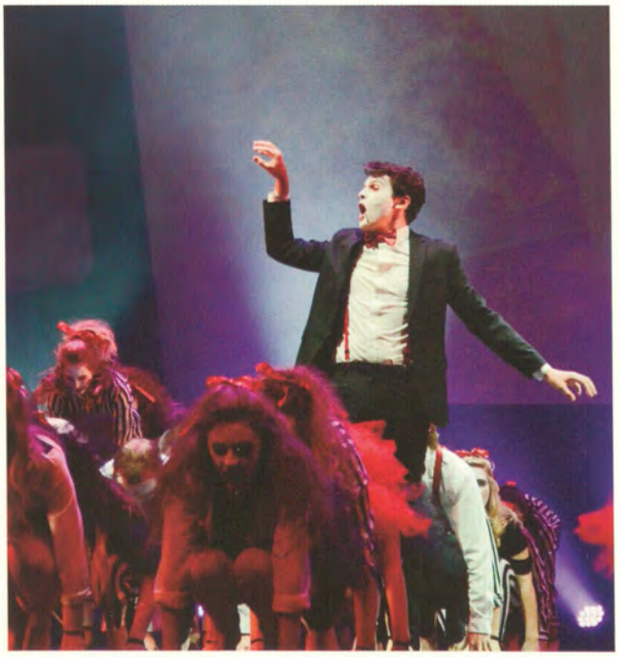
*Let Freedom Ring*

The sisters of Chi Omega escaped the classroom and headed for the playground in this nostalgia-inducing show, complete with tug of war and a guest appearance by the school's resident "Bad Mama Jama," played by Michelle Cooper.

## Spectrum

*The Promotion*

Spectrum participants transformed from being lowly squires to dragon-slaying knights of the kingdom when the Queen summoned them to kill a dragon that was terrorizing a village 500 miles away.



## FreshMix

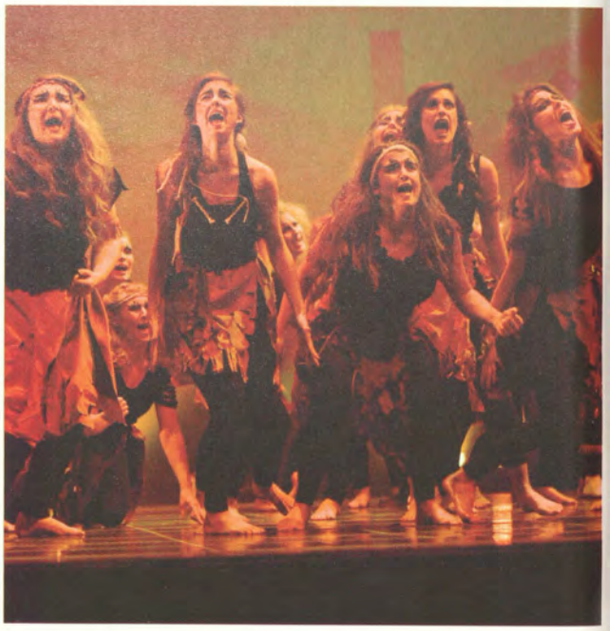
*Cut the Ties*

FreshMix claimed participants' choice award for best emcee thanks to Ben Crabtree's chilling performance as the puppetmaster. This spooky puppet-themed show featured "Do Your Strings Hang Low?" and, by the end of the show, the puppets found their independence.

## Alpha Omicron Pi

*The Missing Peace*

The sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi went back to Woodstock to present "The Missing Peace." Complete with iconic music from the 70s and live performers on the stage, this show brought the message of peace, love and music to the Step Sing stage.



## Indie Ladies

*Catching Fire*

As neanderthals, the Indie Ladies scavenged the land for food to keep them alive. Songs included a "Hey Food" rendition of the Beatles' "Hey Jude," Drake's "Hold On, We're Going Home" and Ellie Goulding's "Burn."

## Sigma Chi

*Alley Cats*

The brothers of Sigma Chi were "on fire" as they relived the glory days of "Life in the Fast Lane" in their bowling shoes. A blacklight dance break rounded out the show. As arguably the most well-loked characters of Step Sing 2015, a group of bowling pins led by junior journalism major Jimmy Lichtenwalter got knocked down, but they got up again, to the sound of roaring applause.

## Noteworthy

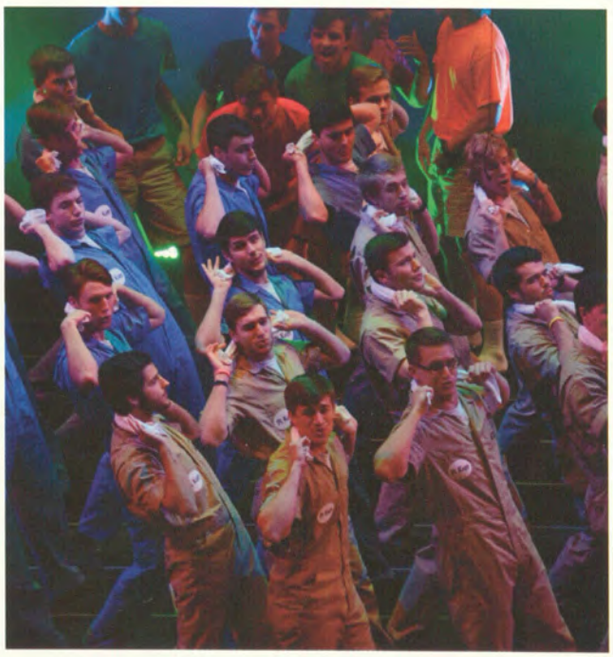
*Work in Progress*

Noteworthy showed audiences a behind-the-scenes look at a factory known as Duloc. The workers clocked in to Kesha's "Tik Tok" and a cheerful opening song. However, this friendly beginning quickly gave way to the darker side of the factory, as the workers survived "Toxic" chemicals and a fire in the factory.

## IGnite

*The Luck of the Draw*

IGnite colored our world with their crayon-themed show. Their ribbon-dancing to "Draw Me Close to You" was a crowd favorite, as well as a crayon rendition of Van Gogh's Starry Night. In their words, they're "washer-friendly, they keep it trendy and markers got envy."



## Pi Kappa Phi

*Trashin' the Camp*

The brothers of Pi Kappa Phi told the story of the unsung heroes of schools everywhere: the janitors. All they did was "clean, clean, clean no matter what," but as they swept the stage, they went from being tormented by kids who trashed the hallways to being partners in cleaning with the students.

## Phi Mu

*The Land Before Time*

Before Alice arrived, Wonderland was a land of mystery and whimsy. The sisters of Phi Mu presented the stories of the Queen of Hearts, Cheshire Cat and the Mad Hatter in "The Land Before Time." The show featured Taylor Swift's "Wonderland."

# Samford Gives Back

*Article by Kristen Jackson, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

Samford students sacrificed sleeping in on a Saturday morning to give back to the greater Birmingham community during Samford Gives Back. This year, Seibert Stadium was packed with students who congregated for prayer before heading out to their assigned locations.

"I went with my AOII sisters to the Library in the Forest, where we cleared off walking trails with several elementary schoolers for Girl Scouts. It was so much fun talking with the girls while we served the community in this small way," sophomore journalism and mass communication major Caroline Carmichael said.

This day of service gave students the opportunity to connect with others and partake in the annual tradition alongside friends and members of the Greek community.

"I helped out at Children's Miracle Network Hospital with a group from my sorority, Phi Mu," freshman pre-pharmacy major Annie Green said. "Samford Gives Back was a great way to bond with others serving especially since CMNH is Phi Mu's philanthropy. My group cleaned wagons that are used to get children out of their room just for a stroll or back to their car so they can go home." Phi Mu sanitized more than 70 wagons for the hospital.

Whether a group traveled far and wide across town or right across the street, helping hands were needed and appreciated. By abandoning the familiar routines of campus life, for even just a few short hours, we were shown just how effective the student body could be beyond Samford's gates.

"We went and worked at the Assisted Living place across the street," sophomore early childhood education major Amanda McKay said. "It was neat to get to love on them and talk with them about our Creator." «

Top: Samford cheerleaders and Bulldog Dancers volunteered at Children's Dance Foundation in Homewood.
Right: Ann Kent volunteered at Samford Gives Back.

Left: Brothers of Pi Kappa Phi participated in Samford Gives Back together.

Above: Karalee Geis
Left: Libby McArthur organized children's books with her Samford Gives Back group.

# Harry's Coffeehouse

*Article by Natalie Cerasoli, Photos by Maddie Davis and Emily Ferrara*

Harry's Coffeehouse was a unique space on campus, transforming on Thursday nights from a beloved Samford hangout area to a Birmingham music venue for up-and-coming artists.

Harry's hosted concerts every other Thursday night, which was an opportune time for students to unwind from their hectic week.

At the beginning of the school year, the directors of musical events, Charlie Howard and Kiani Yiu, established the lineup of artists. Howard and Yiu worked with a team of students to organize artists and performances.

Senior human development and family science major Claire Graff was a part of the organization that helped plan the concerts. "I love the small coffeehouse feel of the concerts," Graff said. "It's also cool to see how many artists have played in Harry's when they were starting out and have now gotten more and more popular."

Bands with a similar sound to those one hears in a coffee shop played in Harry's, further establishing the relaxed environment for students. Penny and Sparrow, Elenowen and Sawyer were just several of the more well-known artists who made an appearance this past year.

"Color Clear was by far my favorite performance. We had so much fun because we could see the band members having fun," junior theatre major Cat Forman said.

In order to increase the opportunity for student involvement, Harry's welcomed Samford students to open for the visiting bands. Students such as JoAnna Little, Morgan Cochran and Danny Delgado opened for the various up-and-coming bands.

"Students were able to support their fellow students and this addition attracted a larger student audience," Howard said. The encouragement displayed by students who supported their peers built community, as students from all organizations and majors were brought together by Harry's concerts. «

Above: Elenowen performed on March 12. Right page: Student Morgan Cochran played and sang.

Left: Students Bonnie Grace Tillman, David Wilhoite and Chris Colee opened for a Harry's concert.

Right: Students met in Harry's Coffeehouse for a Chinese New Year Celebration.
Below: "International Stories" gave students a chance to connect over shared experiences.

# International Students

*Article by Elizabeth Mullins, Photos by Harrison Tarabella and Sara Nolin*

International students from all over the world called Birmingham home this year, whether for their entire university experience or just for a season. About 170 students from dozens of countries became part of the on-campus community.

"A lot of people are unaware of how many countries we have represented among our international students," Sam Hurley, a senior nursing student who served as an International Ambassador this year, said. "We have students from China, Nepal, Malaysia, South Africa, Nigeria, Kenya, Peru, Colombia, Tunisia, Australia, Canada, Switzerland… the list goes on!"

Hurley's position as an International Ambassador was just one way for students to promote international involvement. Other programs included the International Student Leadership Council, the Lives in Common Partner Program (LinC) and a Friendship Partner program that matched students with local families.

For Wingtung Yiu, a junior English major and exchange student from Hong Kong Baptist University, all of these programs made her experience not only more positive but truly welcoming.

"I'm glad we have a group of International Ambassadors—all of them are really passionate about their job, which is really impressive," Yiu said. "They helped me a lot, and they care about me, which helped me to feel less worried in a new environment. And my local family did, too; they gave me a warm feeling which I never expected to have here."

Juliana Guzman, a sophomore language and world trade major, came to the U.S. from Cali, Colombia, to study.

"I found Samford through one of my dad's friends whose daughter came here to study English," Guzman said. "My experience here has been great; I've gotten to meet so many people from different states and countries, and I love that."

Fares Kilani, a junior finance major from Tunis, Tunisa, also found Samford in a truly unique way.

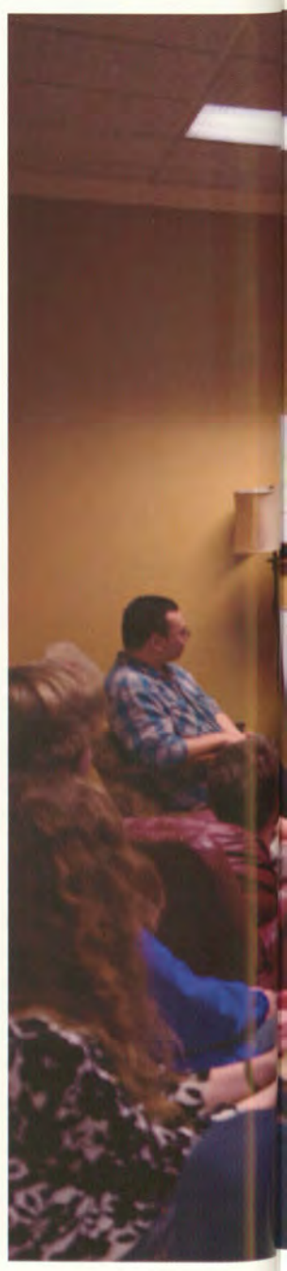
"I heard about coming here from Niba N'tcha, who I know from international tennis tournaments. Samford's tennis coach contacted me when I was looking for a school in the USA," Kilani said. "He really wanted me to join the team, and he was a really great coach, so I chose to come here before any other team."

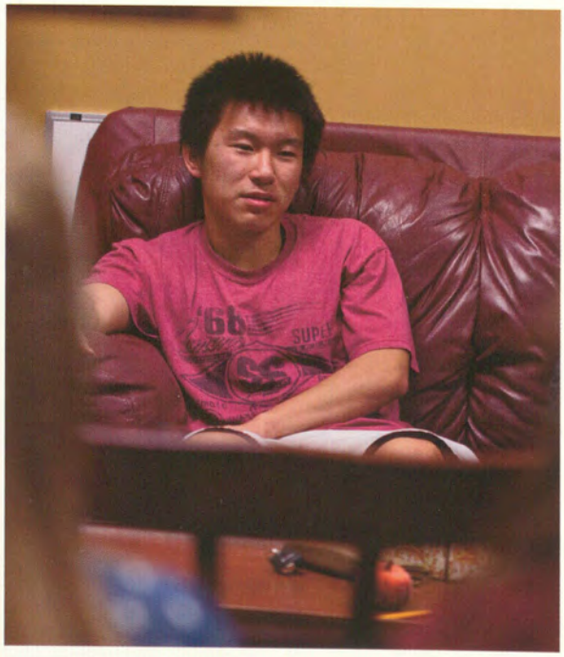
Yiu, Guzman and Kilani all agreed that academics and campus life combined to make their time here personal and memorable.

"Classes and being involved in different organizations have helped me learn so much about the university and the culture of this country," Guzman said.

Kilani credited his experiences on the tennis team and in his core classes for helping him to grow and improve. "I was fortunate to win the SoCon conference my freshman year; it was one of the best moments in my life," Kilani said. "I felt that I succeeded in the challenge by winning the championship and making the dean's list."

"I really appreciate this kind of learning atmosphere," said Yiu, who, unlike Guzman and Kilani, only studied at Samford for one semester. "I will definitely miss everything here, especially my roommate, my new friends and my professors." «





Left: International ambassadors met with international students to discuss living in a new country.

# Residence Life

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Sara Nolin and Claire Per-Lee*

The Residence Life department continued to help make Samford a home for students, as they provided support, leadership, fun activities, and a great housing experience. Lauren Taylor, director of residence life, said, "The heart of this department is to provide high-quality and safe residential facilities while fostering the resident's educational, personal, social and spiritual development within a Christian environment." Residence Life made changes to the facilities and programs based on the input from residents at various Town Hall meetings. Taylor said, "As technology constantly changes, Residence Life works to continue to add services that utilize the new advances."

Move in day at any university is a chaotic day, but Samford ResLife worked to create calm in the chaos. They provided all the new students with assistance as they moved into Vail, Smith and Pittman, the freshman housing locations. Football players, Samford staff, Connections Leaders and various other personnel spent the entire day efficiently and warmly serving Samford's freshmen.

Senior residence assistant Abby McAtee, a double French and mathematics major said, "There were a total of 325 volunteers on move in day this year, each of whom made played a pivotal role in easing new students into the transition of college."

Residence assistants, also known as RAs, were the backbone of this department. With 2,241 students living on campus in 28 residence halls this year, RAs played an essential role as liaisons between residents and the University administration. Sarah Casteel, a senior graphic design major and freshman RA, said "Living with freshmen is such a humbling experience. They come to college without knowing anything and you really have the opportunity to walk alongside them through it all; breakups, first tests, adventures and so much more. It means so much when they come to you." Each RA planned monthly activities for their residents as a way to build community amongst their housing unit.

The residence life staff not only fulfilled practical daily responsibilities but also planned events for the campus, such as Beeson Ball and a drive-in movie. This year's Beeson Ball took place on Friday, March 6 at The Harbert Center in Birmingham, as students donned formal attire and danced the night away.

The Samford experience would not be the same without the Residence Life department. They nurtured students throughout their time on campus. «

Above: Residence assistants worked throughout the year to help students feel at home on campus.
Right page: RAs hosted a Residence Life fiesta in the spring.

Below: Residence Life hosted Beeson Ball at the Harbert Center on March 6.

# Intramurals

*Article by Sarah Bailey, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

For many students, intramurals provided the perfect opportunity to relive the glory days. For others, intramurals were an environment to learn new sports and make friends.

For some students, intramurals provided intense competition. For the third consecutive year, the men's flag football championship was between Sigma Nu and We Dem Boyz.

As the victors of this year's championship, We Dem Boyz advanced to the National Flag Football tournament in Florida after winning a previous regional tournament at Middle Tennessee State University.

According to J.W. Lail, a campus recreation coordinator, there were more than 2,000 intramural participants this year. The impact that intramurals had on students' college careers extended far.

Sophomore accounting major Laura Klein said, "Winning my first intramural championship was easily one of the highlights of my Samford experience."

For Greeks and independents alike, the bonding that occurred on intramural teams was unmatched.

Freshman accounting major and intramural chair for Alpha Delta Pi Laine Phillips said, "Intramurals really help promote sisterhood through having to work together."

Likewise, junior nursing major Chrissy Hessing said, "Intramurals are such a great way to take a break from studying and have a great time with friends."

Exciting rivalries, fun team dynamics, hearty competition and new friends could always be counted on when playing intramurals. «

Above: Men's intramural soccer champions celebrated their victory.

Top left: Ross English practices intramural golf.
Top right: Flag football was a popular sport.
Left: Walker Edmonson putts the ball.

# Spring Fling

*Article by Natalie Cerasoli, Photos by Sara Nolin and Aly Hathcock*

Spring Fling in April was designed to get students of all majors and organizations together in one place, encouraging the development of new friendships. Senior journalism and mass communication major Bailey Fuqua said, "I definitely think it aids in building community at Samford."

The week was carnival themed. Events throughout the week included a photo booth, flea market, various food giveaways and a crawfish boil.

The Student Activities Council partnered with other area universities to help raise awareness about sexual assault at the "Loud and Clear" event on Thursday. Junior journalism and mass communication major Jay Galloway said, "I think it's important that people understand that sexual assault is more widespread than people generally assume."

Rainy weather forced some events to move inside, but student leaders said Spring Fling was still a success. "This year we had to work around the rain, but having things inside brought students closer together," said sophomore SAC member and communication studies major Riley Ford. Students were able to utilize Harry's Coffeehouse as a center for the activities originally scheduled to take place outdoors, and the flea market was rescheduled to take advantage of better weather in Ben Brown Plaza.

"I really think students like participating in Spring Fling, and it would definitely be missed if they didn't have it," said Fuqua. «

Top: Student Activities Council leadership passed out carnival-themed cookies in Harry's Coffeehouse.
Above: Students enjoyed Seeds Coffee.

Left: Madison Thomas and Allie Bridges enjoyed the spring weather at the flea market.
Above: Students hosted a variety of tables during the Spring Fling flea market.

# Academics

# Academics News

## The White House, Sept. 11 and education: Former first lady visits Samford

*March 26, 2015*
*Emily Featherston*

To begin the celebration of 100 years of educating future teachers, Samford welcomed former first lady Laura Bush to the Wright Center Thursday evening.

Bush began by thanking the Corts family and the Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education for inviting her to speak, and said she was glad to be at Samford.

"And yes, I know, it's 'Sam' not 'Stan'," Bush said jokingly.

Bush then gave light-hearted updates on the members of the Bush family, including former President George H.W. Bush, who she said celebrated his 90th birthday by skydiving, and former President George W. Bush, who she said has taken up painting and golf.

Bush said the family has also welcomed a new granddaughter, Mila, the daughter of Jenna Bush Hager, and has been dealing with finding grandparent nicknames.

"George just wants the baby to call him 'sir'," she said.

The former first lady reflected on her time living in the White House and focused on the stress that came with the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

She said her time in the White House showed her that the first lady has an important voice, and that she could use that voice to make important changes in the areas she cares about.

As a former schoolteacher and librarian, Bush's focus has always been on education and literacy.

"Every child, everywhere, should have access to education," she said.

The evening ended with a brief Q&A with Samford University President Andrew Westmoreland, where she gave more insight into the inner facets of living in the White House and her journey to pursue literacy for all.

Education students, who were recognized by Westmoreland at the beginning of the evening, nearly filled the Wright Center, along with other Samford students and faculty, community members and guests.

Freshman history and secondary education major Mallory Killam said she had been excited about Bush's appearance, and enjoyed the stories the former first lady told about her time as a teacher.

"It's really cool to hear someone that important and renowned talk about something so important to me," Killam said.

## Bioethics team, debate student gain national recognition

*May 7, 2015*
*Emily Featherston*

Samford's emphasis on critical thinking gained national attention this week, with the bioethics team and debate team winning runner-up in the National Bioethics Bowl and debate team member Natalie Bennie being selected as a member of the national debate team.

On April 10 and 11, Samford competed at the National Bioethics Bowl in Tallahassee, Florida. In preparation, the team met twice a week for an hour with the three coaches, philosophy professor Wilton Bunch, communication studies professor Michael Janas and director of the University Fellows program Bryan Johnson.

"With the team you would go and present an initial presentation, and they would critique it, and then you would go and revise it, so we did that a couple times. Then it got down to it where you had to memorize your case because you don't have notes or anything during the competition… it's a pretty strenuous process," freshman English major Bailey Bridgeman said.

Their hard work paid off when the team beat schools such as Dartmouth and Florida State University, only losing to University of Alabama in Birmingham by eight points in a tie-breaker for the national championship.

"But it felt really cool, because it put Samford on the map," Bridgeman said.

In addition to the ethics bowl team's success, last week junior communication studies major Natalie Bennie was selected to be one of two members on the national debate team.

"It's really encouraging to be recognized as somebody with debate success in a program as small as Samford, and for Samford to be recognized as a successful and elite program is really remarkable," Bennie said.

The process and work put into it was also rigorous, and included an application, an interview, videos of past debates and recordings of speeches on certain debate prompts.

# Hardin announced as new provost

*May 7, 2015*
*Emily Featherston*

After several months and over 100 interested individuals, Samford has a new university provost.

The decision to appoint J. Michael Hardin was announced on Friday by Samford President Andrew Westmoreland.

Hardin is currently the dean of the Culverhouse College of Commerce at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. He said he is excited to be coming to Samford in a time where so many new projects and opportunities are taking shape.

"I felt a real sense of vitality, and I'm looking to be a part of that and to help contribute to that," Hardin said.

Hardin said one of his goals is to be open, accessible and honest with the entire campus. He said he hopes to get to know as many students, faculty and staff as possible, whether through eating lunch in the Caf or visiting groups around campus.

"My door is always open," Hardin said.

He will officially take over the position on July 1, when current provost Bradley Creed becomes president of Campbell University in North Carolina.

"Dr. Hardin has impressive credentials and a wealth of higher education leadership experience that he brings to his new role as provost. Samford is fortunate to have someone of his caliber as chief academic officer and I wish him the very best as he makes the transition this summer," Creed said.

Westmoreland said that Hardin's academic background, his reputation for research and his affection for Samford's Christian mission were all distinguishing factors in choosing him for the position.

"I believe that we will find Dr. Hardin to be both a careful listener and a person of action," Westmoreland said. "His appreciation for the breadth of a liberal arts education, his experience in leading a prominent business school, his record of building strong relationships and the intellectual and spiritual depth of his personal faith combine to create perhaps the best person that we could have found to serve as provost at Samford University."

Hardin said he knows Samford pretty well, having lived in Birmingham in the past and even having gone on his first date with his wife to an event at the Wright Center. However, he hopes students will help him to learn Samford's many traditions and be a part of campus life.

"I do know about Step Sing, and I'm looking forward to getting to attend my first one," he said.

Westmoreland said that he and his staff will work with Hardin through July and August to get him acquainted with campus and employees, and they will be arranging events for him to meet students early in the fall semester.

# Arts and Sciences

*Article by Claire Jaggers, Photos by Harrison Tarabella, Sara Nolin and Aly Hathcock*

This year marked outstanding achievement for the Howard College of Arts and Sciences. Such success could be attributed to the rich and rewarding partnership of the faculty and the students.

Geography professor Eric J. Fournier was named the 2014 Alabama Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the advancement of teaching. Also in the geography department, professor Jennifer Rahn was honored with the 2014 Higher Education Distinguished Teaching Award from the National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE).

Like the professors, students had great success in the programs and opportunities offered by the college. Sarah Howard, a senior English and Spanish major, said, "Each of my professors is passionate about engaging in classroom discussion and attending to the individual academic needs of his/her student. I've truly been able to grow and prosper as a student in the Howard School of Arts and Sciences."

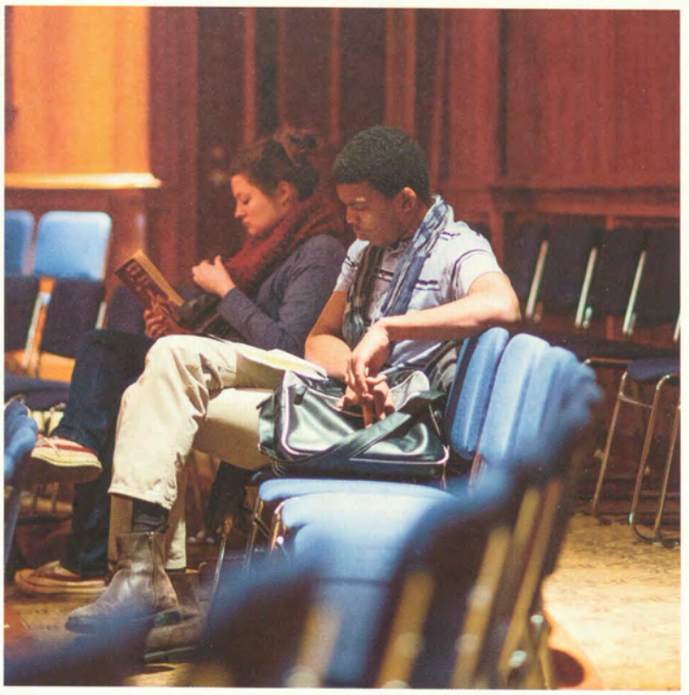
Sarah Cobble, a sophomore English major and Howard College ambassador, said the ambassador program encouraged her to work harder and take advantage of various academic opportunities. "Studying English in London this semester has been the most incredible experience. With Dr. Kraft's direction, I have been able to see how history impacts literature and how, in reverse, literature also impacts history. Thanks to the English Department's international travel opportunities, I can say that I have found a lifelong love for discovery and learning in myself," Cobble said.

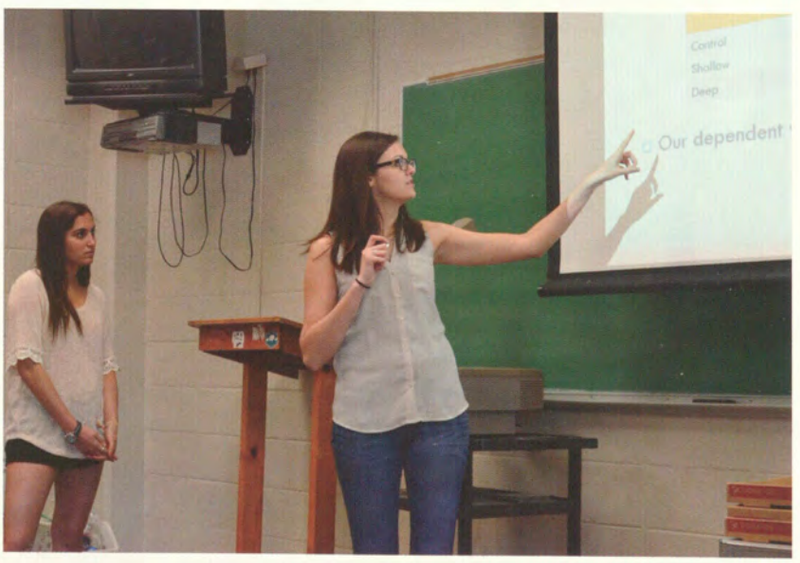
Howard College was proud to announce that a project was underway to have a replica statue of John Howard built for display on campus. The college upheld its namesake's reputation and values. After successfully raising $30,000 for this cause, Howard College was excited to move forward with this project and plans to have the statue installed by spring of 2016.

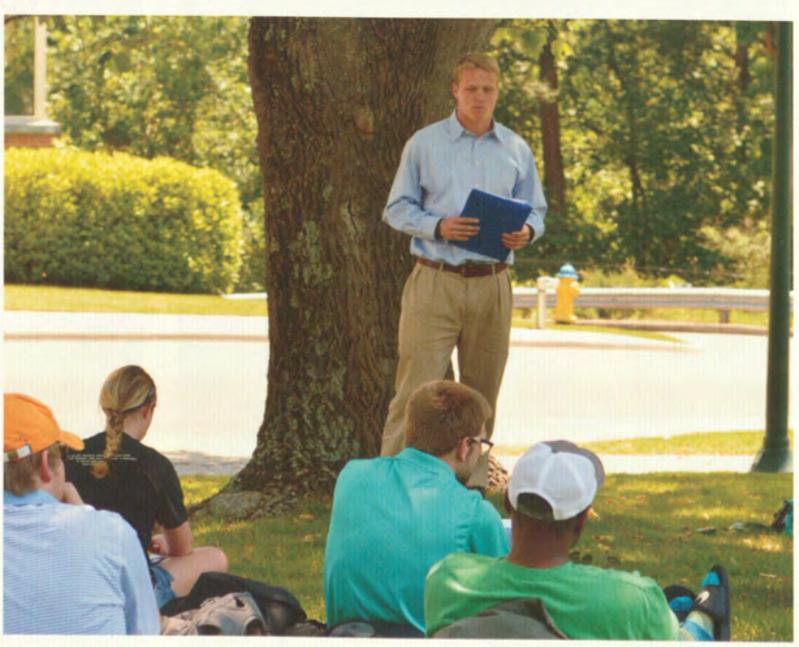
Dean Chapman said, "Howard College appeals to a particular kind of student who is interested in ideas in looking at the big picture, and who likes to ask deep questions." Howard College was set apart for providing students opportunities to engage, deepen and enrich their education. As Howard College continues to nourish the spirit of inquiry, it will continue to flourish. «

Hypotheses
We predict that:
Subjects in the overlearning group
scores on the final reading quiz, and
well in the delayed measure becaus
familiarity with the story.
The interference exercise will have
the overlearning group compared to
control groups.

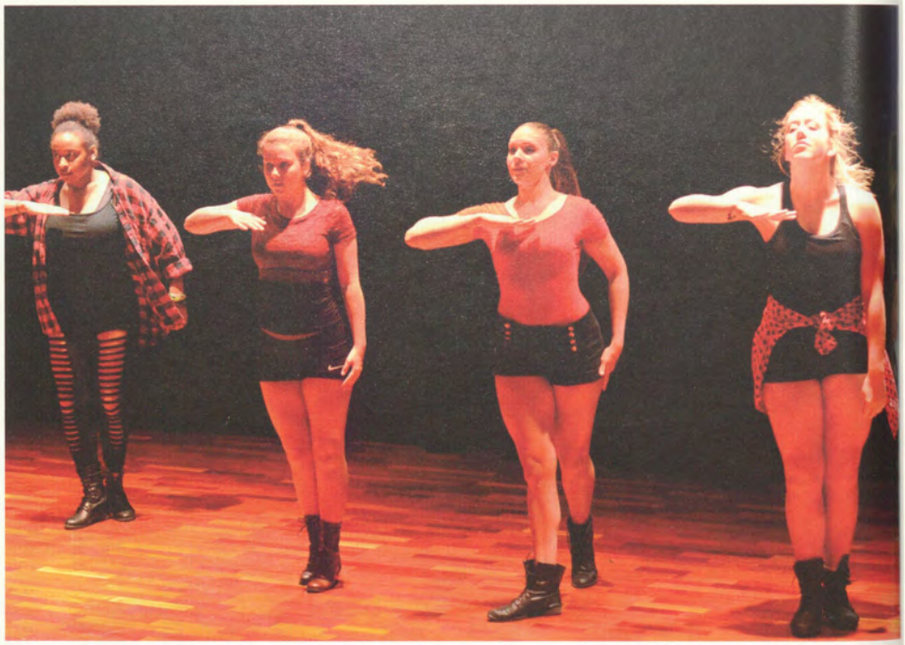
Top: Rebecca Womack presents research to a class.
Right: Graham Laws works on a project.

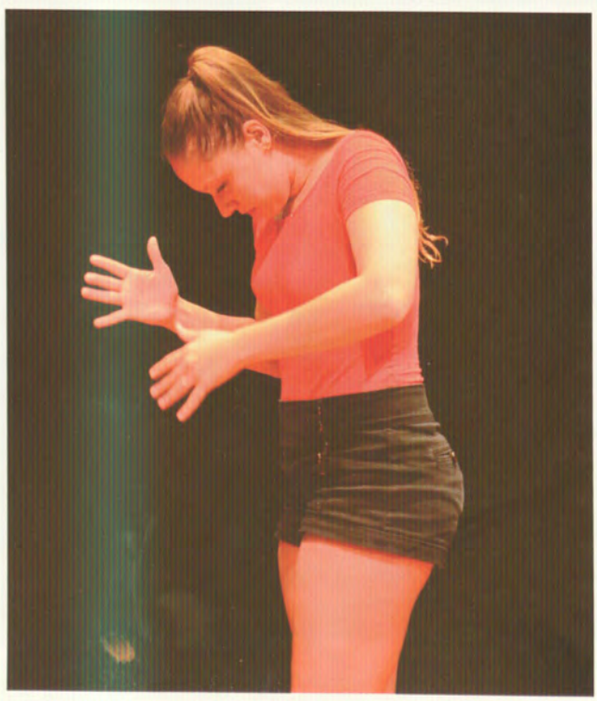






Above: Students took advantage of spring weather and had classes on the Quad.





Right: Hoyt Sims attended a show at the Samford art gallery.

Below: Samford theatre students Anna Thigpen and Malyn Porter.

# School of the Arts

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Sara Nolin*

The students and faculty of the School of the Arts were a community of artists working together in interior architecture, music, theatre and dance and the visual arts. It was here that young artists were prepared to shape tomorrow's world.

The department of interior architecture sought to provide a holistic approach to learning by integrating both design and architecture. Lindsey O'Quinn, a sophomore interior design major, said "I could not imagine having better professors than the ones in this department. They truly care about the quality of our work and they want to challenge and push us so that we become better designers and are able to pursue the future career we desire."

Within the division of music, students were trained in musical performance and had the opportunity to participate in various bands, such as the honor band and concert bands. Students also had the chance to join ensembles, including the University Chorale, A Cappella Choir and Samford Opera. Music study was a threefold program that included training in basic musicianship, specialized professional areas and the liberal arts. Hunter Green, a senior music major, said "In addition to the rich classroom instruction, my most memorable experience in the School of the Arts was when the Samford Jazz Ensemble and Orchestra traveled to the Dominican Republic during Spring Break 2014 to perform."

The department of theatre and dance maintained its commitment to character, ethics and artistic excellence this year, as they produced outstanding performances, including "The Wind in the Willows," "Macbeth," "The Skin of our Teeth" and "Jane Eyre." In addition to the course and laboratory work, the department provided many other valuable cultural experiences.

Neely Scott, a senior musical theatre major, experienced one such opportunity as she studied abroad on a trip to Europe where she toured countries alongside classmates. "We had the opportunity to learn from each other and gain an appreciation for what other arts majors do," Scott said. "We were able to see how hard each of the other areas of study works and how each form enhances others."

The visual arts department worked to educate future artists to go out and share their talents with the world. Senior fine art major Emily Elder described this year as one of excitement and forward movement for the department. "The blue prints for a new art building are in hand and new teachers, Joe Cory and Stephen Watson, have already impacted the school's fervor for creating meaningful art. We are privileged to have faculty that is so committed to each student and their development as an artist. It is a gift to share something with the world through art," Elder said.

Jules Huff, a senior music and worship major, said "I received such an amazing education within the School of the Arts, while also learning how to be a better person."

This type of comprehensive instruction set the School of the Arts apart and prepared the next generation of art students. «

# Business

*Article by Haley Collins, Photos by Harrison Tarabella and Stanley Zeng*

This year has been a groundbreaking year for the Brock School of Business, both physically and intellectually. The new building for the school will have various interesting amenities, including a student business incubator, a community resource room to host larger events and breakout rooms for students and faculty to meet and work. Many professors shared their enthusiasm in the new possibilities that will follow the completion of the building.

Howard Finch, dean of the Brock School of Business, said, "Each of the areas will foster a sense of collaboration and enrichment that will have students, faculty and community members excited about being a part of our Brock academic and community programs."

The professors were not the only ones who were eager for the new amenities in the building. Many current business students, as well as prospective students, fervently awaited its completion so they could begin expanding their experience in the business school.

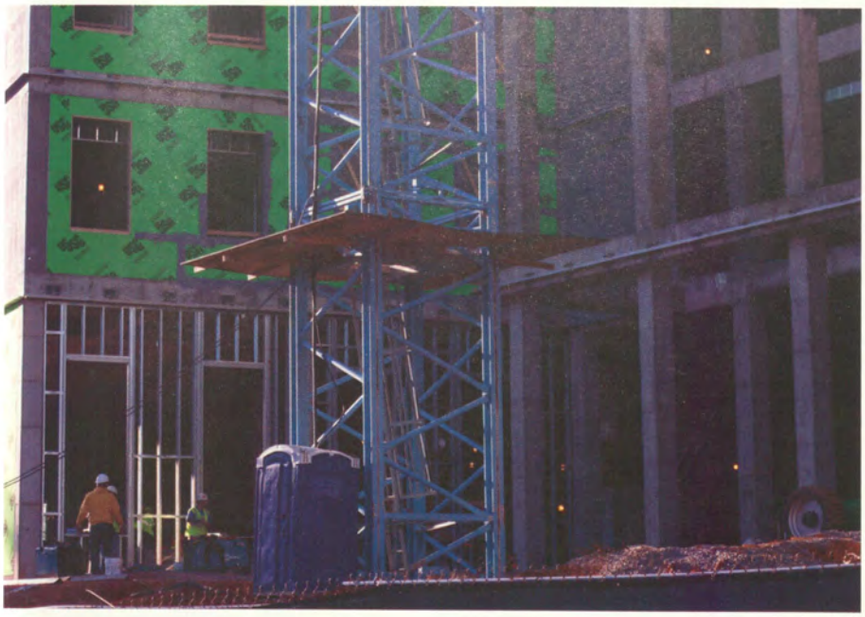
Sophomore pre-business major Chandler Luther said, "I'm excited to be in a top notch building in which I can let my ideas and education run wild."

The exciting news of the expansion of the business school has extended to the alumni community. Alumni were thrilled to hear about the expansion of the business program through the new building.

"The legacy of the Brock School of Business and the energy created by our new building will impact lives beyond that which any of us could ever, ever, ever dream," Alan Register, Brock School of Business alumnus '86, said.

With the excitement of expanding the Brock School of Business from beyond its physical walls and the walls of the program, professors, students and alumni were elated to see the new business building start its onset onto campus. «

Top: Construction on the new building took place throughout the year.
Above: Caitlin Byrd and Caroline Payne discuss the Bulldog Fund's investments.



Left: Business students met regularly to manage the Bulldog Fund.

# Education

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Sara Nolin*

The Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education celebrated its centennial year of guiding students academically, professionally, personally and spiritually. As a part of the celebration of this major feat, the school hosted former First Lady of the United States Laura Bush at the fifth Tom and Marla Corts Distinguished Author series on March 26.

The school housed two dynamic undergraduate departments: teacher education and human development and family life education (HDFE). Students studying teacher education had the opportunity to choose from various tracks, such as early childhood education and secondary education. Future educators in this program participated in integrated semesters called "blocks" which provided ample opportunity for training, application and clinical experiences from the exceptional faculty. Senior teacher education major Katherine Rodgers said, "My heart has been molded and touched by this wonderful faculty whom, I along with so many others, consider to be family. They have gone above and beyond to provide experiences that have instilled an even deeper passion in my heart to love God's children."

Samford's teacher education candidates were granted truly unique preparatory experiences. Over 80 fourth grade students and teachers came to campus on March 11 to participate in Space Day.

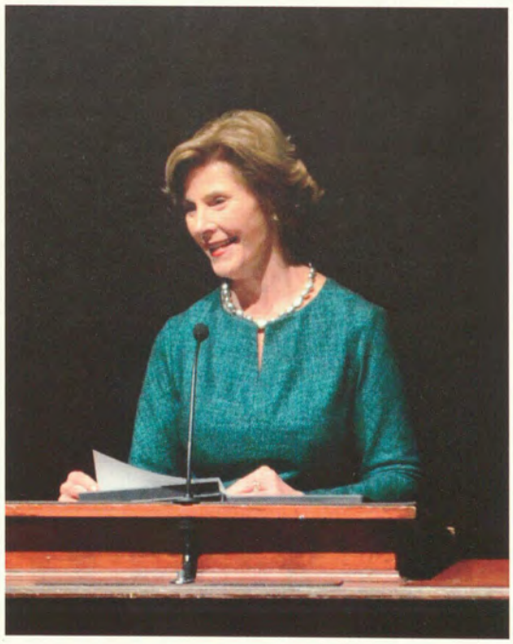
Samford's teacher education students planned various learning activities for students at Trace Crossings elementary school. Amy Hoaglund, associate professor of curriculum and instruction, said, "This event is special to us not only because our students plan hands-on, standards-based lessons that support classroom instruction, but it celebrates the continued partnership Samford has with Trace Crossings."

The HDFE major prepared students for a wide range of careers enriching families through education, service and advocacy. Students studied how individuals grow and develop across the life cycle. Caroline Tudor, a junior in the HDFE department, said, "This major actually drew me to Samford and has still exceeded my expectations on all levels. A shared love for families and education makes students in this area a tight-knit community, as we are nurtured into professionals."

Kathryn Capps, a senior HDFE major, said "My experience in the school has been shaped by the professors, as they instructed me on professionalism, hard work and honesty. It is clear they want their students to succeed."

It is with these values that the School of Education continued to produce caring and committed educators who were ready to positively influence society. «

Below: The School of Education welcomed former First Lady Laura Bush as part of its 100 year anniversary celebration.



Left: Education students Katherine Laatsch, Grace Mintz and Shelby Buscher volunteered at a poverty seminar at Trace Crossings Elementary.

# Health Sciences

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Stanley Zeng*

History was made at Samford as the new College of Health Sciences was established and grew on campus. The college combined the four health-related programs of four respective schools: the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing, the McWhorter School of Pharmacy, the School of Health Professions and the School of Public Health. Within these various programs, more than 30 health-related degrees are now being offered, divided between undergraduate and graduate programs. The goal was to develop life-long learners who were skilled in their professions, as well as competent and compassionate.

For more than 90 years, the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing has prepared skilled nurses to impact the lives of others. Senior nursing major Emma Perkins said, "Being a nurse is more than a job, it is a calling. Samford has taught us what a privilege it is to care for people when they are in their most vulnerable state. We work on holidays and drive to and from work in the dark. But we all do it because we are passionate about our patients."

The McWhorter School of Pharmacy also has a longstanding history, as it has been at the forefront of pharmacy education for more than 80 years and continued to prepare students to be exemplary professionals and improve health worldwide.

The School of Health Professions housed three departments: Kinesiology, Physical Therapy and Communication Sciences and Disorders. The concept of inter-professional education was at the core of all that the school did, as healthcare becomes increasingly team-delivered. Camille Pilcher, a senior HDFE major, said, "The new CSDS department has provided Samford students, myself included, with so many novel and exciting opportunities."

The School of Public Health housed three departments: Nutrition & Dietetics, Social Work and Public Health with the goal of educating leaders to improve the health of our nation, as well as addressing threats to human health across populations.

Dr. Ken Stolzfus, associate professor and chair of the department of social work, said, "Social workers have a vocation to serve humanity, especially individuals and groups who have been marginalized or oppressed." This perspective of living lives of service was interwoven throughout the entire outlook of the new programs.

The innovation and progress seen in the last year will only continue as the college flourishes to meet the increasing demand for health professionals by supplying new majors, new graduate degrees and new outreach programs. «

Top: Calyn Key used the Seibert Gym facilities for a fitness class.
Right: Hands-on classes helped students learn about health and nutrition.

Above: Students learned by doing in Principles of Food Preparation.

Right: The May graduating class participated in a pinning ceremony at Shades Mountain Baptist Church.
Below: Nursing students learned practical skills in a variety of hands-on settings and simulations.

# Nursing

*Article by Analeigh Horton, Photos by Stanley Zeng, Emily Ferrara and Mary Katherine Parker*

The Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing continued in its tradition of excellence. Many students studied in pursuit of serving others through a nursing career. The school offered both undergraduate and graduate programs. As part of the College of Health Sciences, the School of Nursing aimed to prepare students to administer care to others with the best techniques possible.

"Our foundation is built on the philosophy of the late Ida V. Moffett: academic excellence, compassion, caring and service. Those four core beliefs are central to who we are," Dean Eleanor Howell said.

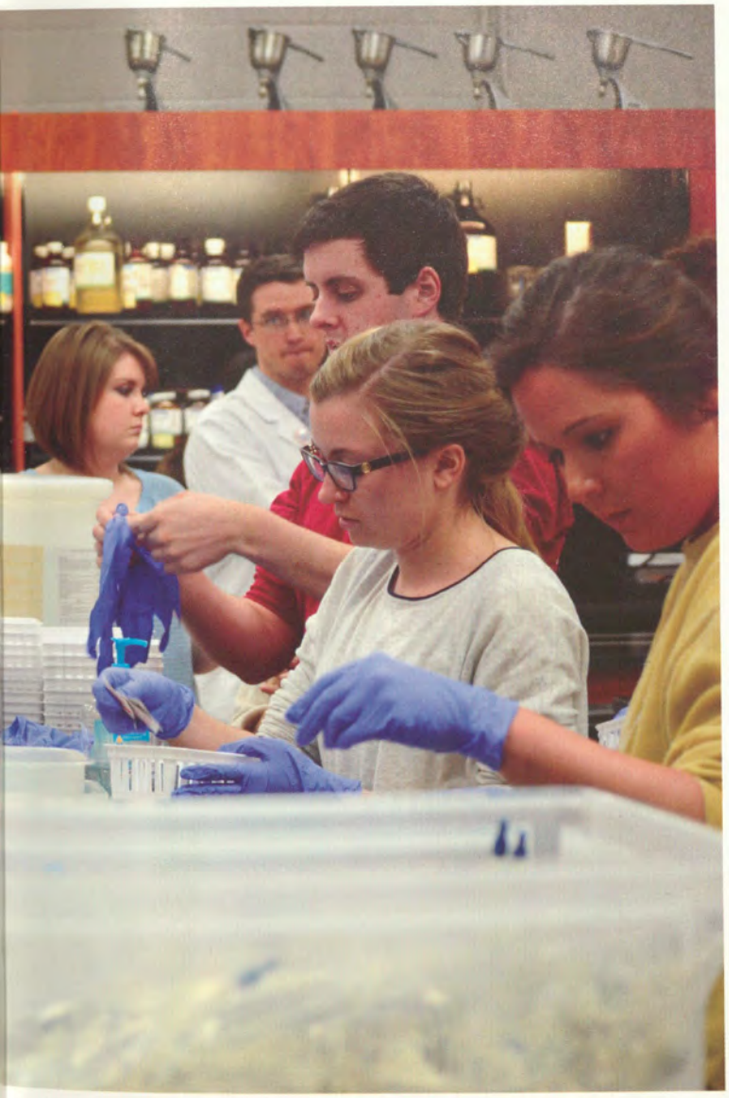
Students prepared both in and out of the classroom. Older students had many opportunities to get hands-on learning experience in the hospital. Students started going to healthcare facilities as early as sophomore year.

"My favorite clinical experience has been in obstetrics," Katie Kosan, a junior nursing major, said. "I love the sense of excitement in the unit. In labor and delivery, you can help bring new life into the world, which is an incredible and unforgettable opportunity. It is awesome to work with the families and help them transition into a new stage of life. The nurses I have worked with have been wonderful and really helped me learn as much as I can from my clinical experience. You can put everything you learn to use and get a peek into the future about what it really means to be a nurse."

The school worked to prepare its students for the field of their choice. "I appreciate how many opportunities there are for hands-on learning," Maggie Tipton, a sophomore nursing major, said. "Even for underclassmen who aren't yet working in the hospital, they can still learn how to do things during the assessment labs."

The School of Nursing offered students the best learning possible. Despite the academic difficulty of the major, students excelled. Their passion for helping others and dedication to care showed the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing's commitment to developing great nurses. «

Below: Abbey Lemons, Blake Johnson participate in a lab.



# Pharmacy

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Sara Nolin*

After more than 80 years of being at the forefront of pharmacy education, Samford's McWhorter School of Pharmacy made an exciting transition to being housed under the new College of Health Sciences. In addition to continuing to provide rigorous academics and rich clinical experiences in a Christian context, the new college allowed for a unique inter-disciplinary curriculum.

Each class within the pharmacy school functioned as its own government and elected class officers. Courtney Ingram, a first year pharmacy student, said, "I serve as class service chair, which has allowed me to lead our class to give back to the Birmingham community through various projects." Allison Disney, a first year pharmacy student and class of 2018 female chaplain, said, "This position has provided great opportunities to meet with the women in our class on a different level apart from academics. I am honored to have this role and thankful for the relationships it has allowed me to build."

When they were not studying, many of the pharmacy students enjoyed participating in fun activities like intramural sports, including basketball, volleyball, soccer and flag football. Ingram considered this to be her most memorable experience. "It has led to being able to get to know my classmates better," Ingram said.

The faculty, staff and students also all gathered for an annual picnic at Railroad Park after the start of the fall semester. This was an opportunity to grow together as they shared field games and BBQ. "I believe not only is education enhanced, but also true relationships are built outside the classroom walls," Disney said.

First year pharmacy student Bradley Saunders said, "The McWhorter School provides a multifaceted approach to educating future pharmacists, which renders a unique experience, allowing us to treat patients more holistically."

This approach was just one way Samford's pharmacy school fulfilled its mission of "preparing pharmacists who transform lives." «

Left: P2 Ashley Buksa assists P1 Allison Disney with sterile compounding procedures during a compounding lab.

# Study Abroad

*Article by Analeigh Horton, Photos by Cameron Gonzalez and Emily Ferrara*

Samford offered more than 50 study abroad options across the world. Students could choose to learn Spanish in the Costa Rican rainforest, take an archaeology trip in Israel or study geography in Saba. One of the best parts about the trips was going with other Samford students. It was a great way to get to know fellow students and take Samford's renowned community across the world.

"Studying in London has been a fantastic cultural experience," Allie Haywood, a junior journalism and mass communication major, said.

"It's also a great way to meet people that you probably would not have known otherwise. I made some of the best friends and been to some of the best places in the world. I'm grateful to Samford for that."

In addition to building relationships among Samford peers, studying abroad gave students the chance to learn through first-hand experiences.

"I went to Costa Rica for Jan Term and had an absolute blast," Sarah Bailey, a junior nutrition major, said. "I studied nutrition and did not speak Spanish. It was difficult trying to talk to my host family at times, but we worked it out, and learned how to communicate. As much as I learned in my class, the best part for me was the nature. Costa Rica is beautiful and you can be zip lining through the rainforest at one moment and lying on the beach the next."

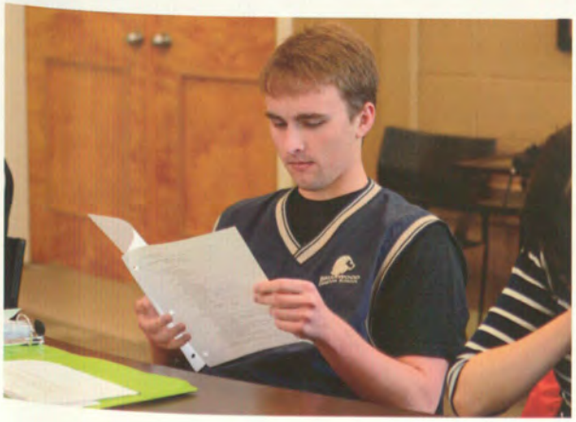
The Global Engagement Office worked hard to help everyone navigate international travels.

"You are about to begin the journey of a lifetime taking courses abroad with your fellow Samford students," Kathy Champion, study abroad coordinator, said. "Make sure you go with an open mind and a positive outlook. Leave behind bad attitudes and criticism."

Studying abroad gave students much more than a vacation. It taught them how to navigate a new city, perhaps learn a new language and understand a new culture. It broadened their awareness of the world and gave them a phenomenal life experience. «

Above: Students studied abroad in London during Spring 2015 and traveled throughout the semester.
Right: Alex Fortanbary traveled to Saba during Jan Term.

Left: Fellows participated in discussion-based classes.
Below: Fellows gathered for a variety of holidays and events.



# University Fellows

*Article and Photos by Aly Hathcock*

The University Fellows program experienced many firsts this year. "Fellows have initiated the Samford Undergraduate Research Journal and the University Fellows Research Assistants initiatives," Bryan Johnson, the program's director, said. Two new Fellows courses – Eastern Intellectual Traditions and The American Founding – were also introduced.

In the fall, the Fellows program co-sponsored an academic conference called "Teaching the Christian Intellectual Tradition: Augustine Across the Curriculum" that hosted approximately 60 scholars from around the country. Rachel Ray, a Fellow and senior classics major, served as one of the conference coordinators.

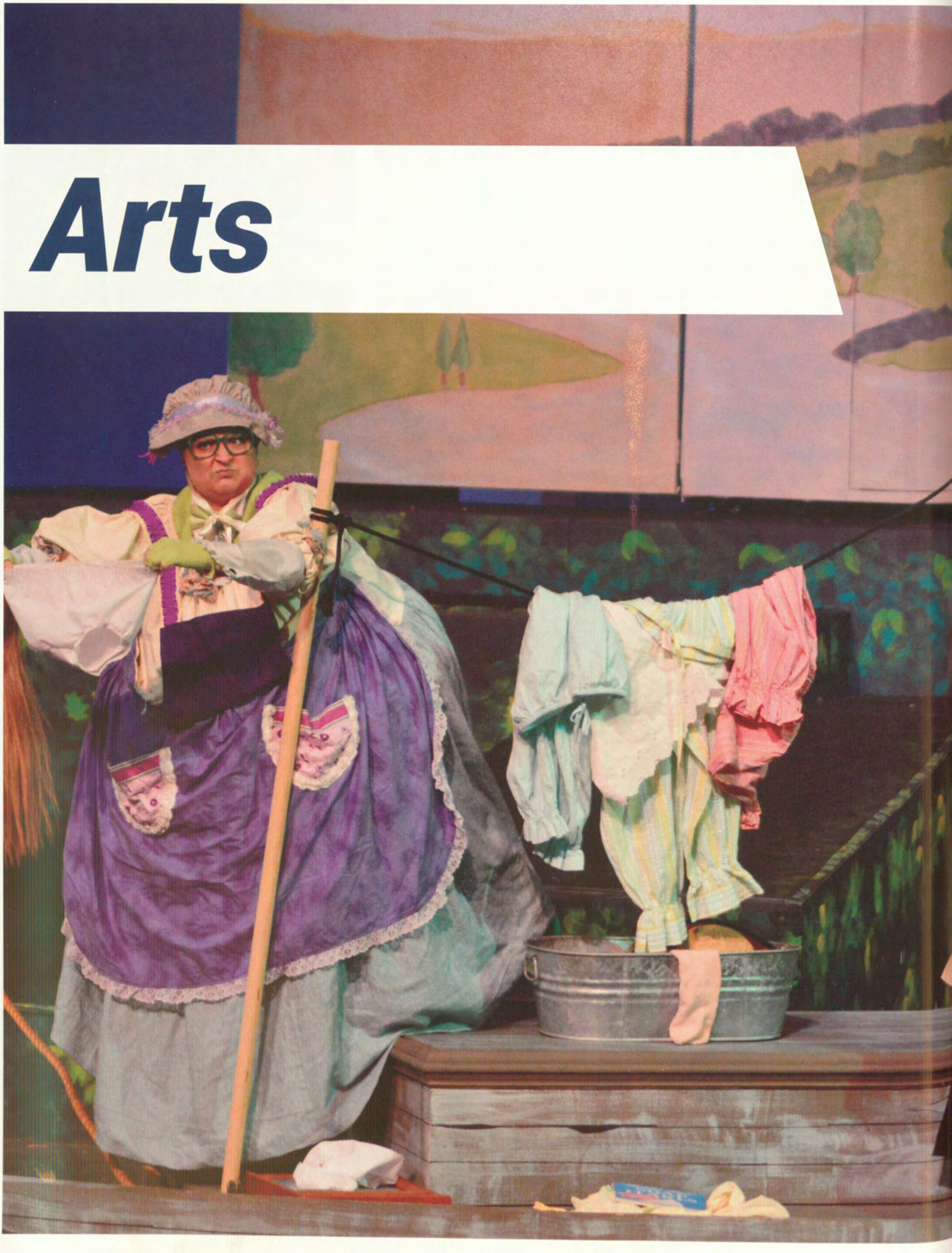
Though there were many additions to the University Fellows Program, the core of the program remained the same – a Great Books sequence and a tight-knit community of undergraduate scholars.

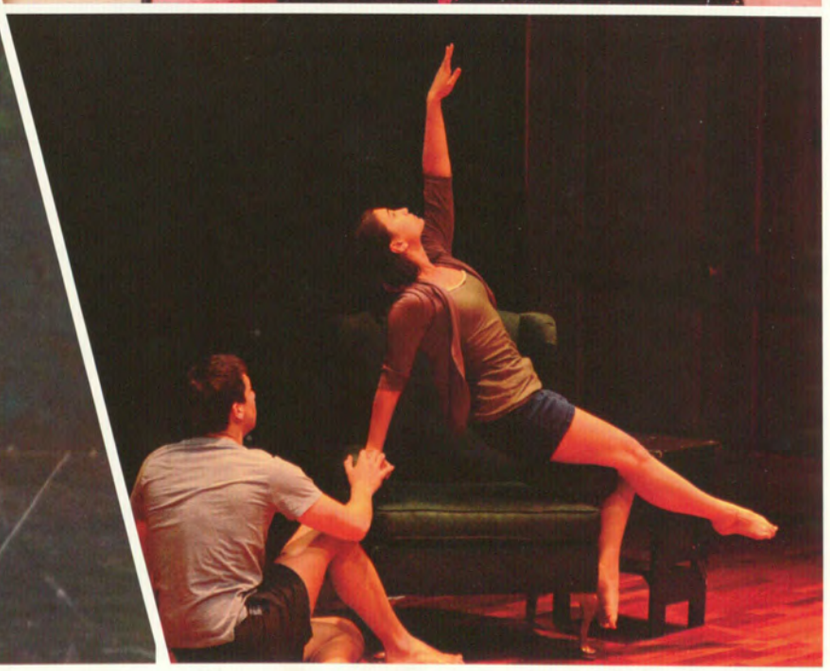
"It is a humbling experience to walk into a classroom and have to put aside your worry and fear to talk about your opinions," Hannah Taylor, a junior biology major, said. "The biggest thing about Fellows is that you have to learn to accept the fact that sometimes your opinion is wrong, and you have to find the humility to admit that in front of your professors and friends. It's difficult, but it helps you grow up and appreciate what other people have to say. Nobody knows everything."

In the past two years, the professors teaching the program have rotated in and out. However, their dedication to the students and the program remains unparalleled. "The UFP professors are fantastic," Audrey Ward, a senior English major, said. "They will blow your mind on a regular basis, but might also invite your class over to their house for dinner to help decorate the family Christmas tree."

The University Fellows don't just read texts. They also have the opportunity to experience them through a study abroad trip to Italy during the Jan Term of their sophomore year. "My favorite memories were definitely on the trip to Italy," Laura Bean, a junior Brock Scholar, said. "I got to see in real life many of the books we had talked about in class and go on adventures with my classmates. The best parts were the unplanned ones or the simple ones- getting lost around Rome, eating gelato every night and even hanging out playing cards in Cinque Terra." «

# Arts





# Arts News

## "Amahl and the Night Visitors" comes to stage this weekend

*November 20, 2014*
*Victoria Heyer*

On Nov. 20 and 21, the Dr. Chandler and Jane Paris Smith Opera Series presents "Amahl and the Night Visitors" in the Wright Center at 7:30 p.m.

"Amahl and the Night Visitors" is a Christian opera about the three wise men on the road to see Jesus. They stop at a house to rest: the home of Amahl, a handicapped boy, and his widowed mother.

"It is charming and sweet with light comical banter throughout," Kristin Kenning, the director of the opera, said. "It is actually a show that was written and geared toward children."

Kenning is continuing a Samford tradition with the opera. Her predecessor, G. William Bugg, produced this opera every two years for decades.

"It is something the Samford community is used to us producing," she said.

Kenning decided to put the play on a four-year rotation so that every student could see it once.

"The music is charming and beautiful, and it is in English," Kenning said.

She said that it is important for the audience to see an opera in a language they understand, especially one written by an American.

The auditions for the play were open, so students of many different majors are showcased in the opera.

Abby Head, a junior vocal performance major, plays the role of Amahl on the Friday night performance. There are two full casts for the opera, meaning that each group performs once, which is something that Head has enjoyed.

"I have had fun getting to know Hannah [Muse, the other Amahl]," she said.

Head chose the role because she fit the bill for a petite, high-voiced actor. Although she enjoys many parts of the play, Head said that her favorite part of the opera is the ending. "It is very poignant and emotional," Head said.

# Artwork, endowed scholarship created in honor of Trevelyn Campbell

*August 25, 2014*
*Sydney Cromwell*

Around 130 people gathered in Reid Chapel at 9 p.m. Sunday night for a prayer vigil honoring Trevelyn Campbell. Students and professors shared stories about the junior fine arts major, who was remembered as a caring friend, lover of selfies and a brilliant artist.

"She was the real deal," said Larry Thompson, the chair of the art department. He recalled his last conversation with Campbell and the way she practically skipped to color guard practice despite the August heat.

Students also read Bible verses and poems, and members of the band played "It Is Well With My Soul" in her honor. Everyone at the vigil was given a card so they could write or draw to express their emotions and thoughts about Campbell's passing. They could then choose to leave their cards on the chapel altar to be included in an art installation.

The installation will hang in the Buchanan Hall lobby through the month of September and then be given to Campbell's parents.

Art professor Kathryn Kauffman also announced the creation of an endowed memorial scholarship for art students so that Campbell would not be forgotten. Kauffman said a donation drive will begin in the coming weeks.

Campbell's funeral will be Wednesday, Aug. 27 at 1 p.m. at Briarwood Presbyterian Church.

# Alpha Psi Omega

*Article by Elizabeth Mullins, Photos by Sara Nolin*

Members of Alpha Psi Omega, the National Theatre Honor Society, participated in various activities across campus and the community this year. Membership was based on achieving points for hours and performance or technical participation within the department.

"APO is a society that is another way that I get to serve the theatre department here at Samford," said Anna Dunbar, vice president of APO and junior theatre major.

Even though requirements existed, membership in APO was extended to anyone who participated in the theatre department enough to meet them. "Our chapter is composed of more than just theatre majors. We have business majors, music majors, and dance minors, too," explained Starr Peterson, senior theatre major. Peterson served as president of APO. "There is a lot of diversity in our society, but we're all part of the organization under one mission statement—to make our department better known on campus."

APO utilized events like a popsicle social, Halloween bash and their annual awards banquet, the Bonies, to build camaraderie within the society. They also focused heavily on their philanthropic efforts, to increase their activity on campus and in the community for the good of others.

Gracie Dod, senior theatre major, served as philanthropy chair for the society for two years. This year, APO not only continued to sponsor a World Vision child, but members contributed to purchase Christmas presents for a Birmingham family in need. "We set off this year and planned to help in our school and community and across the world," elaborated Dod. "The people in APO are the leaders in the theatre department. We like to make a difference and use the gifts we were blessed with to help others and have fun while doing it." «

Below: APO members bonded over their love of performing

# Underground Theatre

*Article by Sarah Bailey, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

The Underground Theatre targeted student audiences with compelling productions that students chose, directed and produced. Commenting on the uniqueness of the Underground, many actors, including junior theatre major Daniel Armbrust, said, "The success of an Underground show is entirely dependent on the students behind it."

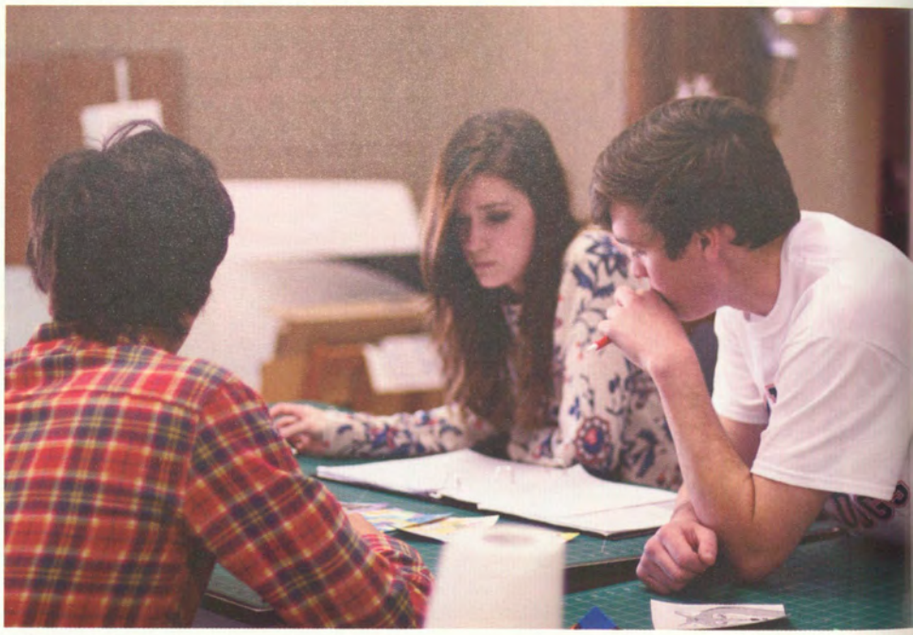
Students submitted ideas for theatre or dance performances to the Underground Committee, a small group of students within the Department of Theatre and Dance. Once approved, directors held auditions, found cast and crew, ran rehearsals and promoted their shows.

In addition to the impressive student leadership, contemporary pieces and intimate scenes often attracted people to Underground productions. Junior German and finance major and Underground cast member Isaac Espy said, "I think the biggest difference between the Underground plays and the main stage productions is the intimacy." In general, the cast of an Underground play was never more than 8 actors. In the Underground Theatre, the interaction between the audience and cast was unparalleled.

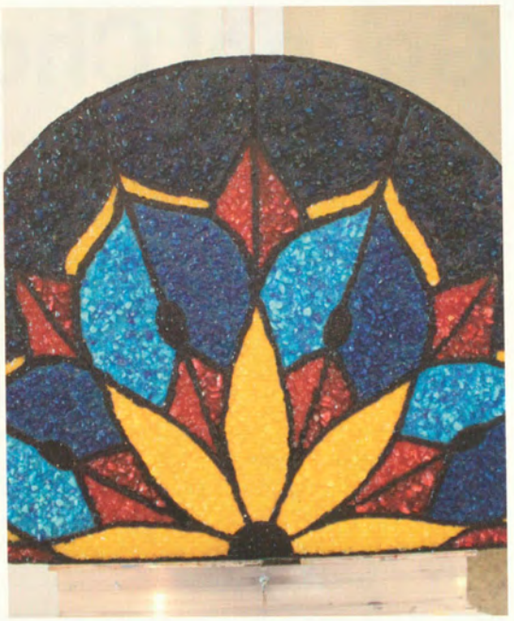
The Underground Theatre existed to provide opportunities for artists across campus. Senior theatre major and Underground director Starr Peterson said, "Underground productions have a wide range of actors participating that are not necessarily theatre majors." With free admission, students are given the opportunity to see their peers perform the arts of theatre and dance in a setting full of passion and freedom.

Many students experienced moments in the Underground that reminded them why they love theatre. Peterson's favorite moment of Underground Theatre was during "Almost Maine," a spring 2015 production. After weeks of developing the characters and difficult scenes, watching actress Madeleine Masson on the final night brought the experience home. "She no longer was acting during that performance, she was living the life of [her character] and I was so blown away I started crying," Peterson said. «

Above: Dalton Roach, Anna Dunbar and Abbie Lill in an Underground performance.



Above: Claire McKee created a three-dimensional "cake" for a design project made of edible items.



# Visual Arts

*Article by Elizabeth Mullins, Photos by Kate Sullivan and Harrison Tarabella*

Students in the visual arts department learned everything from practical techniques to how to come into their own as artists.

"The art and design department here is very unique, and it's definitely one of my favorite parts of Samford," Jasmine Wallace, a sophomore interior design major, said. "I've learned a lot about the many outlets in design, which has enabled me to develop both as an artist and as a person."

The visual arts community was very active in creating and displaying their art, placing works that ranged from sculpture to paintings in galleries and designing concepts for magazines and businesses.

Students also participated in a stage creation workshop that partnered them with small ensembles from the music department to build temporary performance spaces across campus.

Professors and coursework encouraged students to explore new ideas and test their creative limits by experimenting with new techniques while building on the basics.

"One of my favorite memories of all my art classes was in Joe Corey's multimedia class," Ryland Lovvorn, a sophomore fine arts major, said.

"Our assignment for our final was to create a piece of temporary street art and put it up somewhere downtown. It not only pushed my creativity because it was something very out of the box that I had never done before, but it also helped me learn how to problem solve when certain mediums wouldn't work. For our final we rode around downtown to look at all the art that had been put up. It was so much fun!"

Students appreciated the way that professors helped them to grow not only professionally but also personally. "My classmates and teachers have become family. It's this community aspect that makes the department such a wonderful place to grow and learn," said Wallace. «

# Gospel Choir

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Rebecca Womack and Aly Hathcock*

The Samford University Gospel Choir sought to praise God through song, dance and rap as they featured artists and performers from the Birmingham area who shared their heart for God. Gospel Choir president and junior nursing major, Kyra Forman, said, "The organization is improving in every way." The group grew both their number of members and involvement on campus this year.

Each Thursday night, the Gospel Choir gathered to prepare for the numerous events they participated in throughout each semester.

The group not only organized independent faith-based activities, but also performed in conjunction with other groups on campus, such as their involvement with RANSOM gatherings and convocation.

The members hosted their own talent showcase in partnership with other area universities called "In His Name," during which grand prizes were awarded to the top three performing acts. The Gospel Choir also performed at the AAAF luncheon, a Color Fight for Unity at the intramural fields in April, as well as their annual Spring Concert in Hodges Chapel on April 30th.

"Freedom to worship with friends is my favorite part of being involved with the Gospel Choir," said junior music major Juliette Stanley. "It provides me with a breath of fresh air from busy weeks and hectic schedules."

Members of the choir unanimously agreed that fellowship with other believers is what made their experience so priceless this year. A shared purpose of engaging students and the community in worship of Christ allowed this organization to function well as a team and gave them hope of future growth and development. «

# University Chorale

*Article by Kristen Jackson, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

University Chorale was an ensemble of approximately 65 graduate and undergraduate students celebrating and embracing diversity of majors and of musical experience.

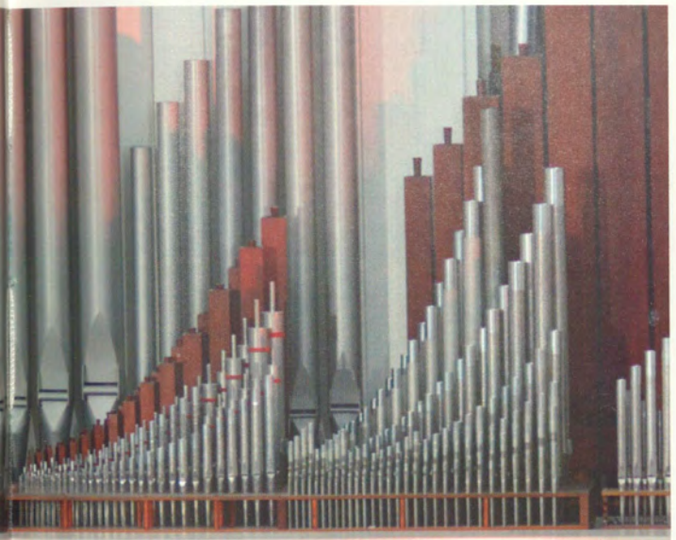
"Many of the students enjoy University Chorale because they improve and hone skills in music, performance, and worship, as well as find a 'sanctuary' from the stresses of life," Director Dr. Sharon Lawhon said.

Weekly rehearsals allowed each member to develop both musical skills and new friendships with classmates.

"I really enjoy just being able to take a few hours of the week to just sing, instead of focusing on school work," junior sociology major Morgan Rhodes said. "It is always great to be able to make new friends and see the friends that you do not normally see outside of Chorale."

The choir performed at Hanging of the Green and collaborated with a local church and musicians to present John Rutter's REQUIEM. Through shared practices and performances, many memories were made and the beloved traditions of Samford brought to life.

"I came into University Chorale not knowing many people and not knowing what to expect, but it was just a loving family," senior religion major Elizabeth Smith said. "University Chorale is a big, hodge-podge group of students from every corner of campus coming together to not only sing, laugh and perform, but to worship." «



Below: University Chorale processed in to Reid Chapel for Hanging of the Green.

Left: The group performed under the direction of Dr. Sharon Lawhon.

# A Cappella Choir

*Article by Kristen Jackson, Photos by Aly Hathcock and Eleanor Stenner*

Samford's A Cappella choir consisted of 45 talented voices joined by a shared passion for vocal performance. The A Cappella choir made appearances both nationally and internationally under the leadership of Dr. Phillip Copeland. The choir also performed in featured concerts of the American Choral Directors Association and the National Collegiate Choral Organization.

"My favorite performances of this year have been our monthly Vespers service in Hodges Chapel because of the deep religious experience that they bring," sophomore voice performance major Maddie Lawry said.

After many beloved seniors graduated at the end of last year, the choir gained 20 new members. The newest and dearly valued voices adapted quickly to the 75-year tradition of a cappella singing that the Samford community adored.

"This is my fourth year in the A Cappella choir, and it is there where I met my best friends, toured Europe twice, sang around the Southeast numerous times and learned some of the world's greatest choral pieces," senior journalism and mass communications major Eleanor Stenner said.

Members were not only challenged as musicians in the making but were also provided with a strong community that shared similar musical interests. This year they joined the Alabama Symphony Orchestra and Chorus in April for Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana".

"The best part about being a member of the A Cappella choir is being able to sing beautiful music together, especially in the Vespers services," junior voice performance major Abby Head said. "We get to glorify God with the gift he's given us while helping other people to praise him."

After performing both across the globe and right in the heart of the Samford in Hodges Chapel, the A Cappella choir continued to leave their audiences awe-inspired. «

Above: The A Cappella choir performed monthly Vespers services in Hodges Chapel.
Right: The group performed at the Alabama Pastors Conference at Lakeside Baptist Church.

Top: A Cappella performed in Hodges Chapel.
Middle: The group performed at Hunter Street Baptist Church.
Above: A Cappella sang in Vespers in Hodges Chapel.

Above: Lucas Eddings and Christy Vest performed together.

# Samford Opera

*Article and Photos by Aly Hathcock*

Samford Opera put on two performances - one per semester. In the fall, Samford Opera students performed Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors," a Christmas-themed performance that students later toured around elementary schools in January.

The spring opera performance consisted of scenes from a wide spectrum of opera performances. Students performed scenes from Mozart Operas, as well as a number of musical theater scenes from well-known performances such as "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" and "Fiddler on the Roof." This spring, Samford Opera had the opportunity to premier a brand-new scene from the opera "Roscoe."

Because Samford Opera weaved together both vocal and instrumental music with all aspects of theater, each performance involved more than 60 students.

"It is an art form that demands community and builds ties across all art forms," said Dr. Kristen Kenning, the director of Samford Opera. "It can only succeed through collaboration and shared vision."

Students who participated in this rigorous program learned much more than singing. "Samford Opera exemplified that organic, believable interactions on stage come out of a free, playful, courageous, encouraging rehearsal environment," said senior voice major Abi Benke. "This training was invaluable in my personal development because I learned how to be my own artist and gained confidence in myself as a communicator." «

Left: Christy Vest, Joylyn Rushing and Bruce Henderson in spring opera scenes.

# Samford Dance

*Article by Riley Ford, Photos by Aly Hathcock and Paige Van de Vuurst*

While some students enrolled in the Samford dance program were seeking to be professional performers, others simply had a desire to move and perform on smaller stages. The Department of Theatre and Dance took on two different types of dance performances this school year. In the early spring, Light/Light: A Dance Concert featured various local dance companies in addition to Samford students.

Parker Eskridge, a sophomore psychology major, theatre and film production minor, and stage manager for Light/Light, said, "This year's dance concert was not only a showcase of the talent at Samford but also dance companies of the Birmingham community. This was one of the first dance concerts to combine the various companies and university performers together and was a great show for all the cast and crew to be a part of."

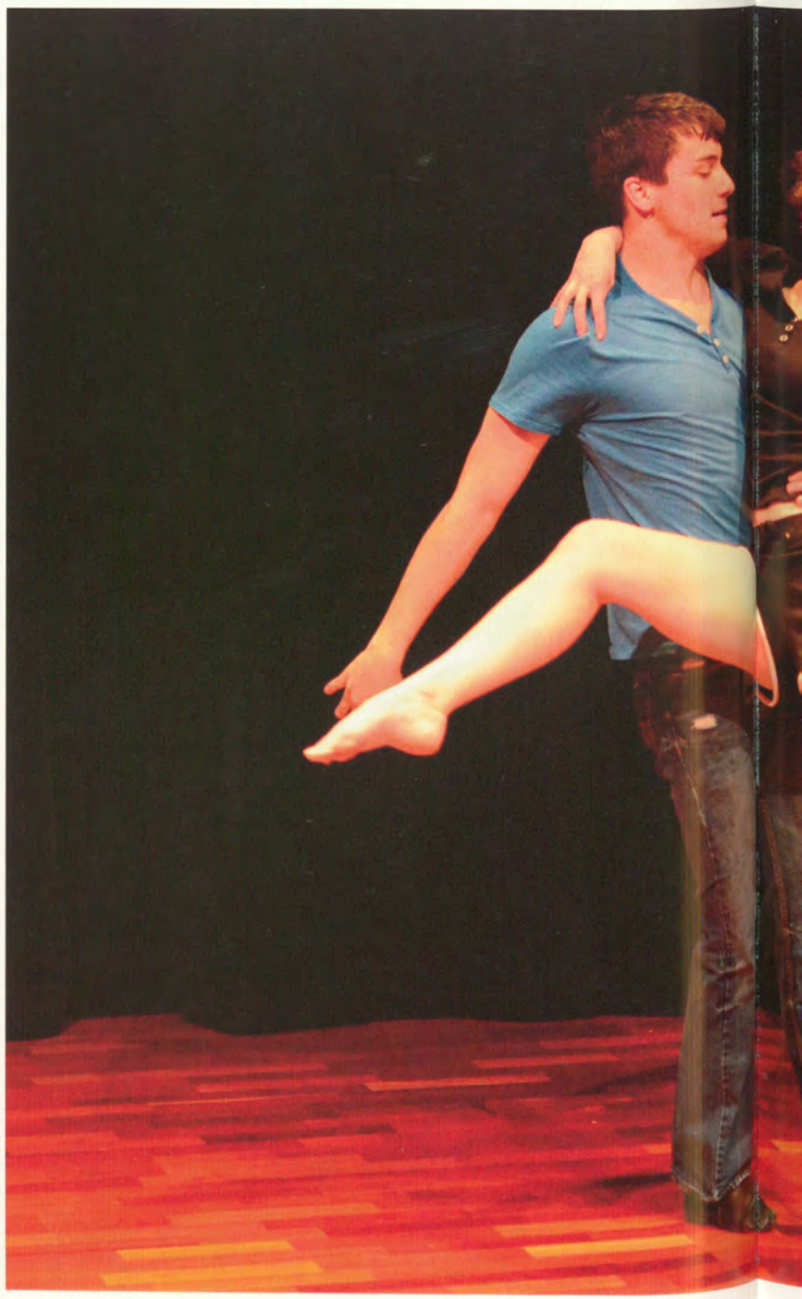
The Samford Company consisted of dancers chosen by audition to perform in the dance concert along with being invited to take an advanced level dance course throughout the semester.

Alisa McCool, adjunct professor of dance, said, "My first year as an adjunct professor of dance at Samford has been refreshing, fun, challenging, and inspiring. The students in the dance program are some of the most talented, hardworking, and professional I've ever taught. I'm excited about the future of dance at Samford University!"

An Underground Theatre dance performance was another exciting endeavor for Dance. Students from any field of study were able to audition to be placed in the student-choreographed and produced show. Dance numbers were also featured in the main stage theatre productions "The Wind in the Willows" and "Jane Eyre."

Senior arts administration major and dance minor, Kathryn Henriques, said, "Through the Underground Theatre season, students also have the opportunity to choreograph their own works for the Samford stage. This year's concert, Darkness, was a fantastic collaboration between five student choreographers. I personally learned a lot through the process of creating two different dances and bringing them to life for this concert."

Samford Dance took itself to a new level, and the students and community involved experienced the beauty and strength of movement. «



Above: Lauren Norton, Kathryn Henriques and Sara Copley performed in Light/Light.

Left: Adam Cobb and Elizabeth McGuire rehearsed for the underground dance concert, Darkness.
Above: Senior Christy Delenick performed in a Dance production.

# Jazz Band

*Article by Elizabeth Mullins, Photos by Stanley Zeng*

The Jazz Band spent its year making music across the community, not only performing on-campus but in a variety of other events. Jazz Band was directed by Dr. Grant Dalton, and it welcomed student performers of all majors.

"If you can play decently, we'll take you!" said Torrie Richardson, a junior art major. Richardson had been a member of Jazz Band since her freshman year and played on the trombone line. "My experience in the jazz band has been nothing but uplifting and energizing. The group is definitely like a family."

Jazz Band spent time on tour at high schools in the Birmingham area, playing concerts as a recruitment tool for both the music department and the university as a whole.

The group took a special tour this year to play at a series of high schools in Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

"This was my favorite event of the year!" said Brianna Ware, a senior piano pedagogy major.

Jazz Band had also participated in a mission trip in conjunction with the orchestra. "Last spring break, we went on a music-based mission trip to the Dominican Republic. That was by far my favorite and most memorable experience with the ensemble," said Richardson. "It was also really encouraging to see how my faith can be incorporated into what I love, even if I'm not specifically in ministry."

Richardson said that the group struck a balance between work and play, working as musicians but also as a group of friends. She said, "We like to think our group name is 'Father Jazz and the Groove Rainbow Big Band.' We're trying to get it to catch on in the student body, but I'm not sure if Samford will let us officially change the name anytime soon." «

Right: Michael Naro performs in a jazz band concert.

Orchestra students performed alongside music faculty at concerts throughout the year.

# Orchestra

*Article by Elizabeth Mullins, Photos by Harrison Tarabella*

This year, the orchestra was extremely involved in the promotion of music of all varieties on campus and beyond.

Orchestra students participated in concerts, played in the pit orchestras for opera and theatre productions, and joint performances with other music groups like the wind ensemble.

"This year, I participated in the pit orchestras for both 'Ahmal and the Night Visitors', with Samford Opera, and for the musical theatre department's production of 'Jane Eyre: The Musical'," said Brianna Ware, a sophomore piano pedagogy major.

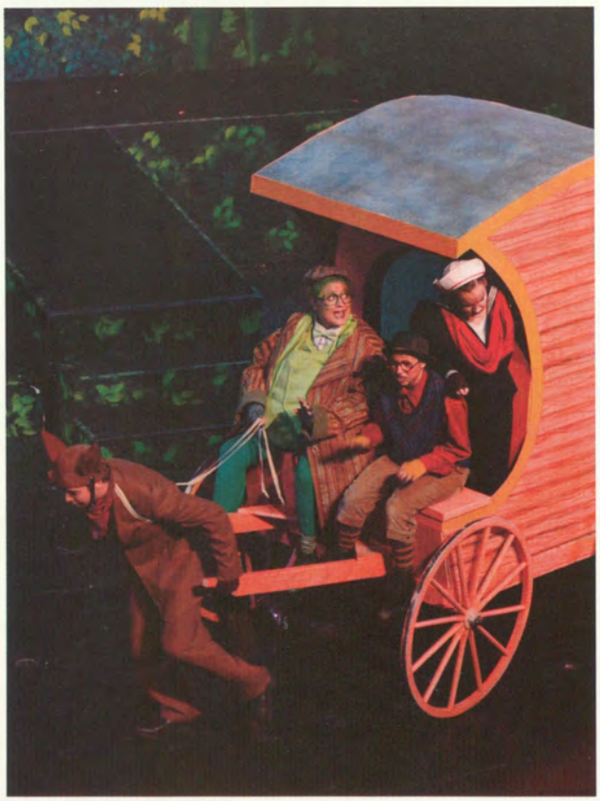
Ware played both piano and violin for the orchestra in addition to being involved with other ensembles.

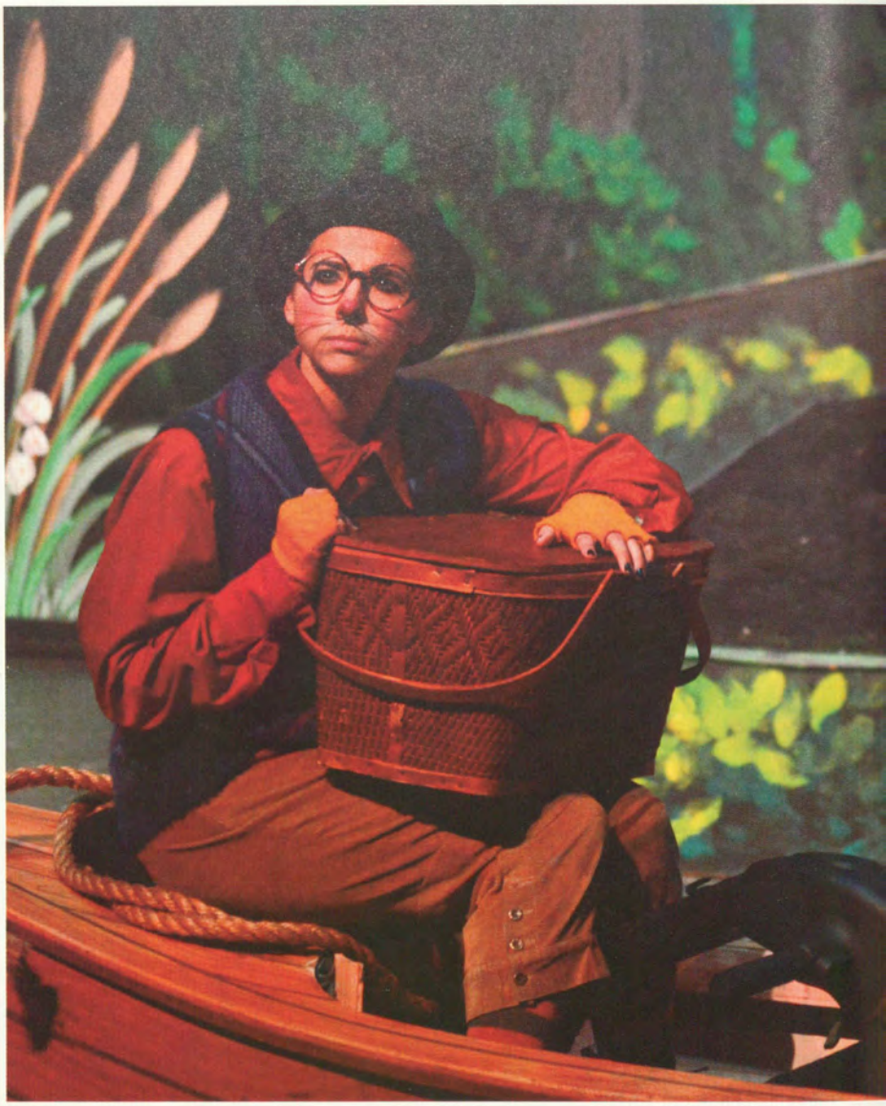
"In the spring semester, the orchestra performed in the annual Concerto-Aria concert, where winning students from the School of the Arts performed with us, after competing to perform as soloists alongside the orchestra," Ware said.

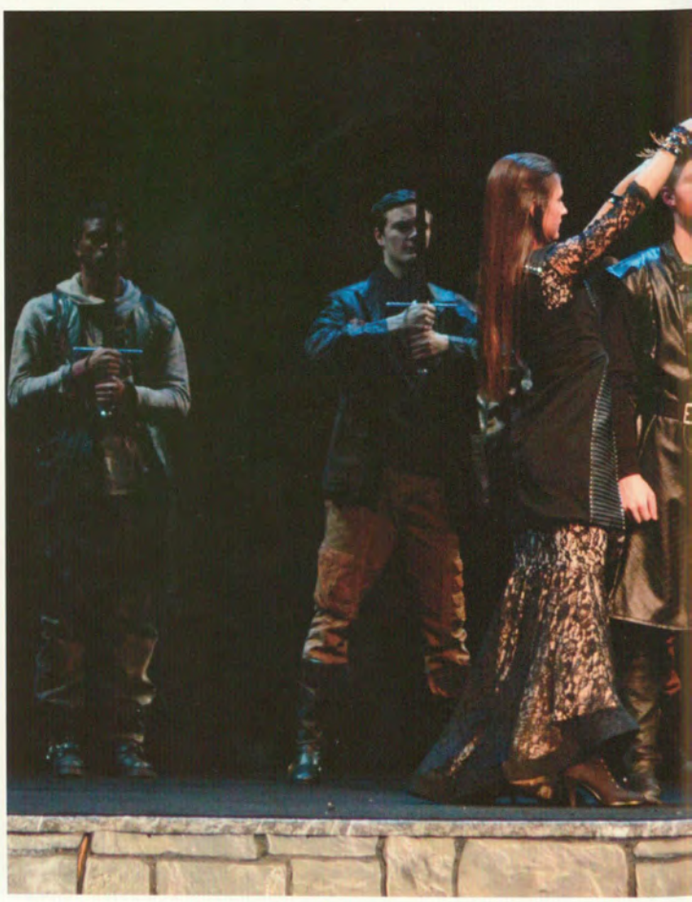
Students involved with the orchestra practiced tirelessly all year to ensure that their performances reflected well on their own abilities as well as on their director, Dr. Brian Viliunas.

Through their multiple concerts and involvement with other organizations' performances, the orchestra helped to make this year musically memorable. «

Below, right and bottom: Bonny Baker, Neely Scott and Starr Peterson starred in "The Wind in the Willows" in October.







# Play Profiles

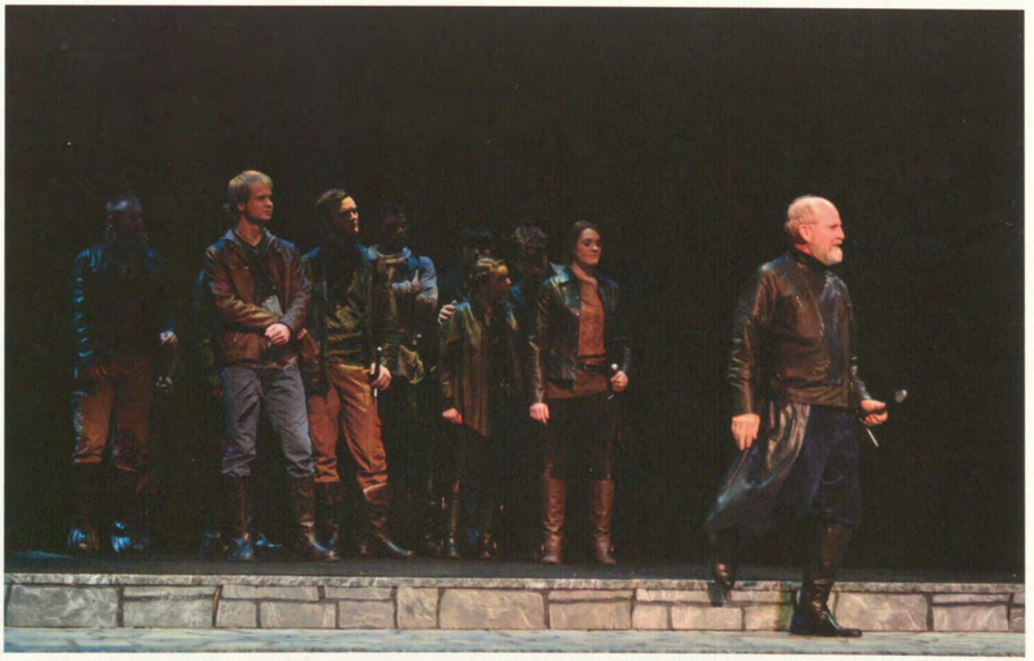
*Articles by Riley Ford, Photos by Aly Hathcock and Paige Van de Vuurst*

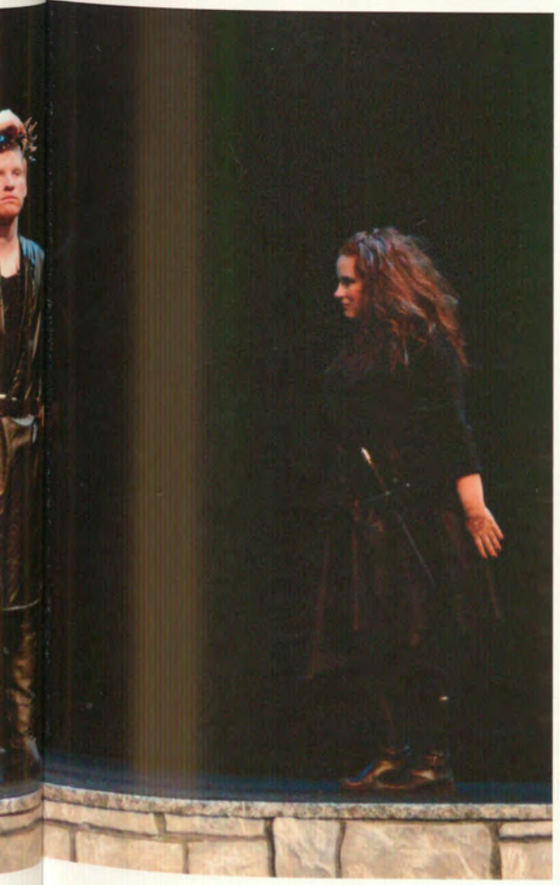
## The Wind in the Willows

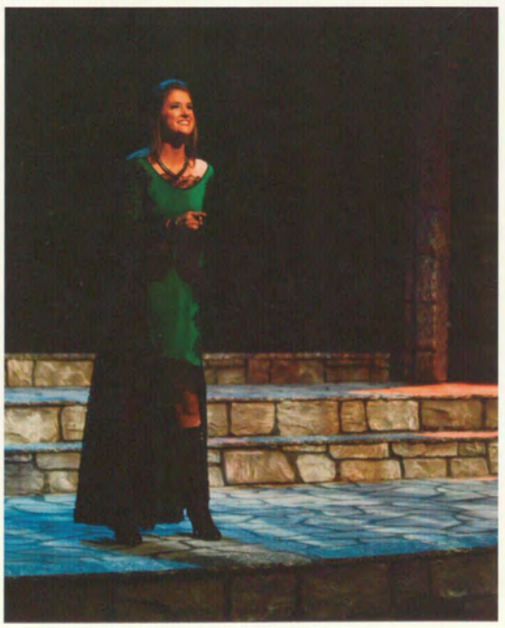
In the opening show of the season, the cast of "The Wind in the Willows" dazzled the audience with their roles as animals. As the actors gave their best in this classic musical, all in attendance took a trip along the river and through the woods with them. The evident themes of patience, kindness and loyalty flowed throughout the entire performance and gave the audience a few lessons in morals to take home. The show was popular among children, students and adults alike. «

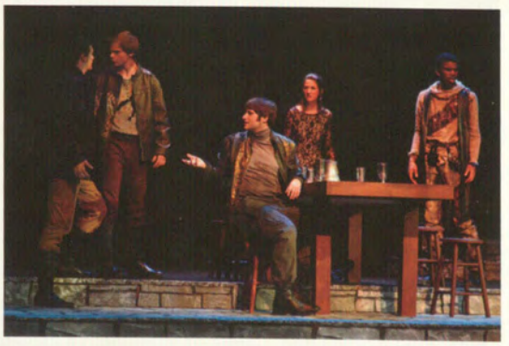
## Macbeth

A timeless Shakespeare favorite, audiences flocked to the performances of "Macbeth" to see how Samford's Department of Theatre and Dance would present it. The actors and crew did not disappoint. Playing on the emotion associated with the quest for power and revenge, the play struck a darker side of life that was a thrill to watch unfold on the stage. The performance was a reminder of the masterful work Shakespeare produced and the timeless themes of humanity. «









Left: Addison Debter played the title role in "Macbeth" and Cory Wagener played Lady Macbeth.

# Play Profiles

## The Skin of Our Teeth

Despite being one of the lesser-known productions of the year, "The Skin of Our Teeth" was a hilarious and spectacular production. Audience members who did not know the storyline were in for a pleasant surprise. With a vibrant set and costumes to match the actors' portrayal of their characters, it was a show that sent everyone home wowed. The satire of the American family so expertly written by playwright Thornton Wilder gave the audience a variety of everyday life issues to reflect on. Drama and humor combined effortlessly to produce a memorable performance. «

# Jane Eyre

Much anticipation led up the production of "Jane Eyre." This gothic tale of pain and love is a favorite to many and recognized by even more. The star of the show might have been the revolving stage that so rarely gets to be included in shows throughout the years. This was a pleasant surprise to the audience, as it created another dimension of visual appeal. The vocals of the cast proved to be both incredible and moving. This musical was an impeccable way to end this season of performances by the Department of Theatre and Dance. «

Above: Carin Lagerberg played the title role in "Jane Eyre."

# Athletics

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# Athletics News

## Men's track and field claims second straight SoCon title

*April 29, 2015*
*Sam Chandler*

The likelihood of the men's track and field team earning a second straight conference title appeared to be fading.

In the days leading up to the 2015 SoCon Outdoor Championships, pre-meet rankings predicted perennial power Western Carolina would storm on to Samford's campus and breeze to the team title by a healthy 61-point margin.

The staggering projection did not lack credence, as the Catamounts cruised to a dominant victory at the SoCon Indoor meet a mere eight weeks earlier, steamrolling the 'Dogs by over 70 points. But, as they proved this weekend, numerical projections fail to consider one key ingredient to a team's overall success: heart.

"That's what we always talk about, just fight to the end and show your heart," head track and field coach Rod Tiffin said. "We showed this team has heart." The men's track and field team defied the odds and battled its way to a second consecutive conference championship, claiming the SoCon crown on home track by an unprecedented 41 points.

"They just weren't going to be denied this weekend," Tiffin said. "You could see it in them on their face from the moment we walked out here on this track that they were not going to be denied that championship."

Clutch performances across the full spectrum of events propelled the men to the team title, as Bulldog athletes claimed 10 individual championships while sweeping post-meet honors.

Senior Sidney Jordan was named the meet's Most Outstanding Athlete and Most Outstanding Field Performer after clinching the triple-crown in the men's throwing events. Jordan collected a meet-high 30 points and captured first place finishes in the hammer throw, discus and shot put.

"Throughout the year, there's going to be some hardships and some ups and downs, but when it counts you got to come through," Jordan said. "It was a good day. It all came together."

Junior Brandon Hazouri was named the meet's Most Outstanding Track Performer for the second consecutive year, racking up 20 points and repeating as the conference champion in both the 800 and 1,500 meters. "It's nice to come out here and execute under the pressure and defend what we did last year," Hazouri said.

Carson Howe was named Freshman of the Year after tallying a pair of runner-up finishes in the 200 and 400 meter dashes. Howe, who was also a part of the 4×100 and 4×400 meter relay teams, broke the 17-year-old school record in the 400 with a time of 47.87.

"For those guys to do all that they did, scoring twenty-plus points apiece and just dominating their event areas, you can't ask for more than that from them," Tiffin said. Tiffin was once again named the SoCon men's Coach of the Year.

## Tartt selected 46th in NFL draft

*May 7, 2015*
*Sam Chandler*

NFL Hall of Fame defensive end Charles Haley stepped to the podium at Chicago's Auditorium Theatre on Friday night prepared to issue a life-altering statement.

After a cordial introduction from NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, Haley made the following announcement on behalf of one of the league's most storied franchises: "With the 46th pick in the 2015 Draft, the San Francisco 49ers select Jaquiski Tarrt, defensive back, Samford."

And with those 18 words, one man's life permanently changed.

Former Samford safety Jaquiski Tartt, an athlete who played just one year of high school football, became the highest draft pick in school history and the first Bulldog drafted since cornerback Corey White was selected by the Saints in 2012.

"I was ecstatic. It was crazy. I prayed to God to put me in the right spot and he came through for me," Tartt said in a post-draft conference call with the media. "I was honestly expecting the third or fourth round maybe, but I ended up in the second. I'm just thankful they drafted me in the second round."

Tartt, a three-time FCS All-American, began to climb up the mock draft boards after posting a flurry of impressive offseason performances. He tallied three solo tackles at the Reese's Senior Bowl on Jan. 24, earned an invitation to February's NFL Combine and recorded a 4.47 40-yard dash at Samford's pro day in March.

At 6-foot-1, 221 pounds, Tartt possesses the ideal combination of size and speed to develop into one of the league's elite safeties.

In San Francisco, he'll join the secondary tandem of Antoine Bethea and 2013 first-round pick Eric Reid, a pair of prominent players who will surely aid in Tartt's on-the-field maturation.

"They have a great group of guys in that secondary," Tartt said. "I can learn a lot from these guys."

As his skills develop under the mentorship of Bethea and Reid, Tartt will look to make an immediate impact on special teams.

"I want to get out on special teams and make my name on special teams," Tartt said.

# Samford Sports creates a new slogan

*September 17, 2014*
*Grace Miserocchi*

The Samford Sports Department has created a new phrase, "Ruff Em," to represent Samford Sports as a whole.

"We wanted to make something that is uniquely Samford. When you hear Samford, we want people to think Ruff Em. When you say Ruff Em Up, that inspires teamwork and a fight," said Abby Turner, athletic marketing coordinator.

Samford strong is still the mission and motto, and Ruff Em is meant to be a secondary phrase. However, Turner says that if Ruff Em catches on in the next couple of years that could switch. The Samford sports department never officially adopted past phrases such as "bow wow bulldogs" and "paws up" and is trying to create consistency with Ruff Em.

Students have had mixed opinions on the new slogan and have expressed opinions on Twitter with the hashtag #ThingsCoolerThanRuffEm and the parody account Samford Ruff Em. However, student athletes, including senior football player, Brinson Porter, appreciate the thought behind the slogan.

"I think it is great. The football team loves that they are thinking about us and we have the slogan to fall back on," Porter, a defensive lineman and finance major, said.

The Sports department is working to spread the new slogan through #ruffem, t-shirts, bracelets and other merchandise. Cheers with "Ruff Em Up" were introduced to the student section at the first home football game last Thursday. "It is short quick and to the point and it is going to do as well as people want it to. It has all the right things to catch on," Porter said.

# Football

*Article by Katie Matuska, Photos by Emily Ferrara and Lydia Smith*

Samford football finished the year with its fourth-straight winning season. The Bulldogs started and ended the season by playing two top 25 teams - Texas Christian University and Auburn University.

"It was fun being able to play against guys that you see on television all the time," said senior Jaquiski Tartt. "It was a wonderful experience being able to play on that stage with my teammates, and it was something I will never forget."

Samford had 12 players on the All-Southern Conference Team, including six players that were placed on the first team. Tartt was asked to play in the Reese's Senior Bowl, making him the first Samford player in history to be honored in an all-star game.

Tartt was also named to the American Football Coaches' Association FCS All-American team. He was the only player from an Alabama school that was honored.

"I did not anticipate making the team like the previous two years," Tartt said. "But in the end I'm very grateful and honored to be an All-American for three straight years."

In May, Tartt became the highest-drafted player in Samford history when he was drafted 46th overall in the second round to the San Francisco 49ers.

Junior Michael Eubank had an impressive first year at Samford after transferring from Texas Tech University. He served as the starting quarterback for the Bulldogs.

Eubank enjoyed the tight-knit atmosphere that encompasses the team. "I was taken in immediately and was embraced as if I had been there for years," Eubank said.

Many feel this family-like element came from the leadership of head coach Pat Sullivan, who announced his retirement from the program in December. Coach Sullivan set the record for the most wins by a Samford head coach.

"He gave the kids the big picture," said offensive coordinator Travis Trickett. "He will be missed on the field but the most off the field." «

Left: Samford defeated Concordia College 55-0 at Homecoming November 1.

Above: Running back Jake Wilks
Left: Wide receiver Robert Clark tries to escape two Concordia College defenders.

# Bulldog Dancers

*Article by Riley Ford, Photos by Emily Ferrara and Lydia Smith*

The Bulldog Dancers had a monumental year as they were added to the list of official teams supported by Samford Athletics, a huge step in recognizing the excellence in dance and school spirit the team has shown.

Sophomore journalism and mass communication major Lauren Lyskoski said, "We set a goal this year to demonstrate to Samford Athletics that we would be great representatives of the program."

The team bonded over the two weeks of band camp during the summer. Even from those first weeks together, they made it a priority to be more than just teammates with each other.

Morgan Perry, a sophomore nursing major, said that she knew joining the team would give her the chance to be more involved on campus and give her an outlet to dance, but she never expected to make such great friendships. "The best overall experience was getting to spend time with such wonderful, encouraging people who I probably would have never met otherwise," Perry said.

Along with dancing on the sidelines at football and basketball games, the Bulldog Dancers cheered alongside of wheelchair basketball and football teams at the Lakeshore Paralympic Training site. They also spent time dancing with local elementary schools' dance teams, teaching the girls routines to perform at Samford sporting events.

Captain and junior journalism and mass communication major Margie Terp said, "I love being able to succeed and strive to reach new goals with a group of girls and make a difference in someone's experience - whether that be entertaining at halftime, cheering for our Bulldogs or volunteering in the community!" «

Above: Samford's Bulldog Dancers added spirit and energy to athletic events.

Below: Cheerleader Ashley Lyon held the flag at a home football game.

# Cheerleaders

*Article by Riley Ford, Photos by Emily Ferrara and Lydia Smith*

The Bulldog cheerleaders worked hard this year to promote school spirit, perform elite stunts and create an atmosphere around themselves and the campus centered on faith in Christ.

"We wanted to grow together as a team while growing towards Christ," sophomore nursing major Raegan Camp said. "We believe that with this mindset, we can be the team that we are called to be and so much more."

The team went through rigorous preparation during the summer before the start of the fall semester. Two-a-day practices instilled comradery within the members of the team. Outside of practice, the team enjoyed having fun and adventuring around Birmingham and beyond together.

Many of the cheerleaders said that being on the team has enhanced their Samford experience. They had the unique ability to be a part of the numerous athletic teams that they cheered for, becoming friends with many of the players and staff.

Hannah Diamond, a freshman journalism and mass communication major, said traveling to away games and cheering in front of the student section were some of her favorite memories. "Cheering at Jordan-Hare Stadium in Auburn was incredible," Diamond said.

The cheerleaders formed close friendships with each other through their love of cheer, describing their team as a family. Even though practices and long games weighed each member down every now and then, being on the team taught them many life lessons.

Coach Ashley Phillips said, "This team is by far the most talented group of girls that I have coached. They have worked incredibly hard so far this season and continue to work hard." «

# Marching Band

*Article by Rachel Stanback, Photos by Lydia Smith and Emily Ferrara*

The marching band underwent changes but continued to provide unmistakable energy and school spirit at a variety of campus events.

The marching band began the year under a new interim director of athletic bands, Brandon Slocumb. "He provided new structure and new life to the band program," senior Spanish major Shelby Quattlebaum said.

In addition to the change in direction, the band changed their musical style by playing more pop music. "Updating the music for the show this year really helped with audience participation as well the morale of the band," Quattlebaum said. As a drum major, Quattlebaum helped lead practices and conducted the halftime show at home football games.

The band performed at a variety of events, including home football games, pep rallies in the caf, the Bulldog Walk and basketball games. A smaller "pep band" traveled to the SoCon tournament with the basketball team.

"The most fun part about the basketball games was cheering on the team and spending a lot of time with friends in a band setting," Quattlebaum said. "Because marching band is only in the fall, basketball games gave us an opportunity to reconnect and have a lot of fun together."

Through striving for excellence in music and learning how to work as a team, the marching band developed strong bonds with each other.

Junior religion major Camille Honts, a member of the drum line, said the community among the band was unmatched. "I love the community that I have found in marching band. I've made so many friends and we all share a similar love for music. I am just really grateful for the marching band," Honts said.

"Over the past four years, I have found my best friends in the band and as cliché as it sounds, the band really is like a family," Quattlebaum said. «

Right: Drum major Shelby Quattlebaum directs the band.

# Color Guard

*Article by Rachel Stanback, Photos by Lydia Smith*

Above: The color guard wore sunglasses to their first performance in memory of their teammate Trevelyn Campbell.
Right: Tara Jones, Melissa Montgomery and Jacquie Downey cheered on the Bulldogs during a football game.

For the color guard, it was a year of ups and downs. The year started with the tragic loss of student Trevelyn Campbell, a member of color guard. Campbell was set to be a junior art major before she was killed in a car accident just before classes began in August.

"Trevy was one of our newest members, but she was also one of our brightest," color guard captain Tara Jones, a senior exercise science major, said. "Her smile was contagious, and she had this glow about her that made you instantly love her."

Freshman psychology major Dani Johnson said that the team was devastated by the loss, but they came together to mourn and finish the season in her honor. "I don't think I could ever love a group of girls like I love my team because of the events that we have gone through together," Johnson said. Sophomore Spanish major Amanda Owens, a friend of Campbell's, held a flag in her honor on the sideline while the group performed.

The group's main focus was the halftime show at football games, but they also learned stand tunes and cheers. The group enjoyed choreographing routines to new pop music the marching band performed this season. "After every halftime performance we walked off the field with a smile on our faces," Johnson said.

The group also performed at Homecoming festivities and Bulldog Walks on the quad. "My favorite part of the show was always performing the closer of the show, which incorporated some of our hardest flag routines. Once we finally got it down the feeling was so rewarding. It was like a sense of accomplishment and joy because we had come so far," Johnson said.

The group practiced both individually and with the band, and worked together to develop a creative, entertaining program. "I asked many other girls to help plan flag work and teach it. We are a team, and I wanted to bring in everyone's creativity," Jones said.

"Throughout the season, we made memories that we will never forget and friendships that mean the world," Jones said. "We may have experienced a deep loss, but we also experienced how to come together and lean on one another– we became a team." «

# Volleyball

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Tate Holcombe*

The volleyball team had a season worth celebrating as they finished with a 20-13 record, won the SoCon Sports Championship and played in the NCAA tournament.

Some of the team's most notable wins were against UAB, Western Carolina, UNC Greensboro and Furman. Winning the Southern Conference championship was the culmination of hours of rigorous practice and preparation.

Senior accounting major Selina Schirmer said, "Ever since the first day of preseason our goal has been to win the Southern Conference tournament. 120 days after our first team meeting, we beat Furman 3-1 in the conference championship to win the title. Looking back on the season, having won that trophy makes all the preseason three-a-days and long practices so worth it. There's no better feeling than to finish my career as a Samford Bulldog bringing home a conference championship."

Not only did Samford take the tournament title, but senior Chelsi Carter was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player and senior Michaela Reesor became Samford's all-time leader in kills.

Reesor, a journalism and mass communication major, said, "While breaking the school record was not a goal going into the season, it was exciting to achieve that recognition after months of working hard on the court, bonding together as a team and making sacrifices outside of the gym."

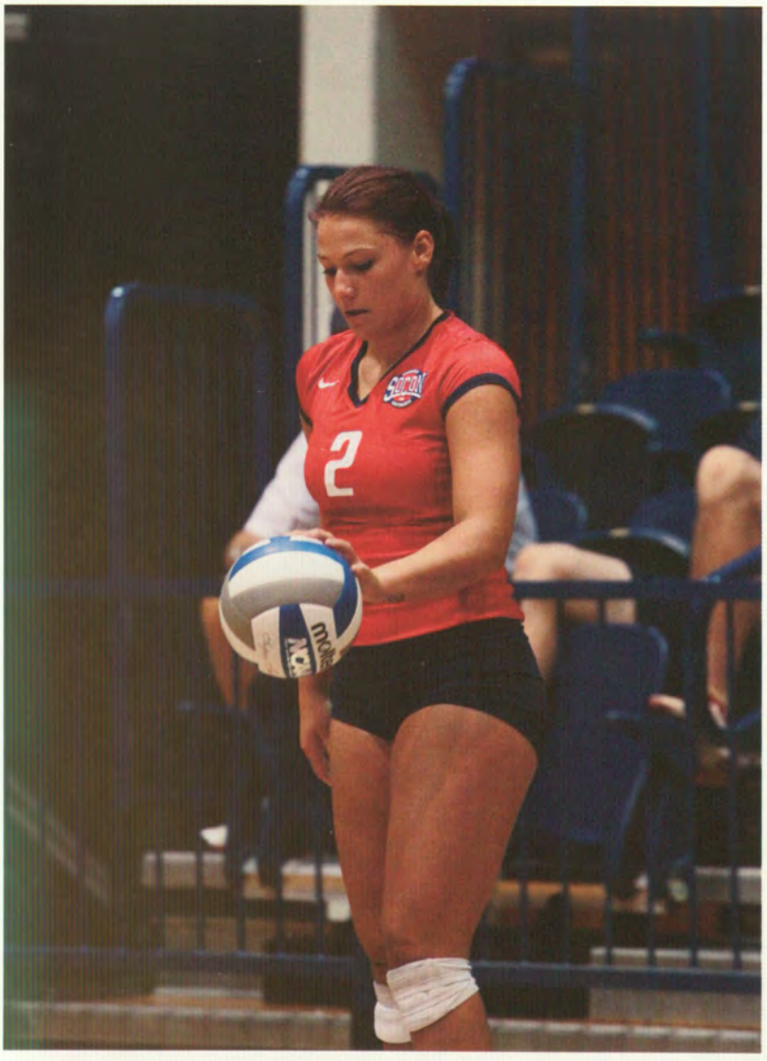
Off the court, the team also found a family-like bond. Schirmer described her four years on the volleyball team as "being a part of a big family, surrounded by people who are constantly there to support one another."

Freshman Julia Claire Cornay said the team is "one big goofy, loving and honest group of people who would not trade one another for anything."

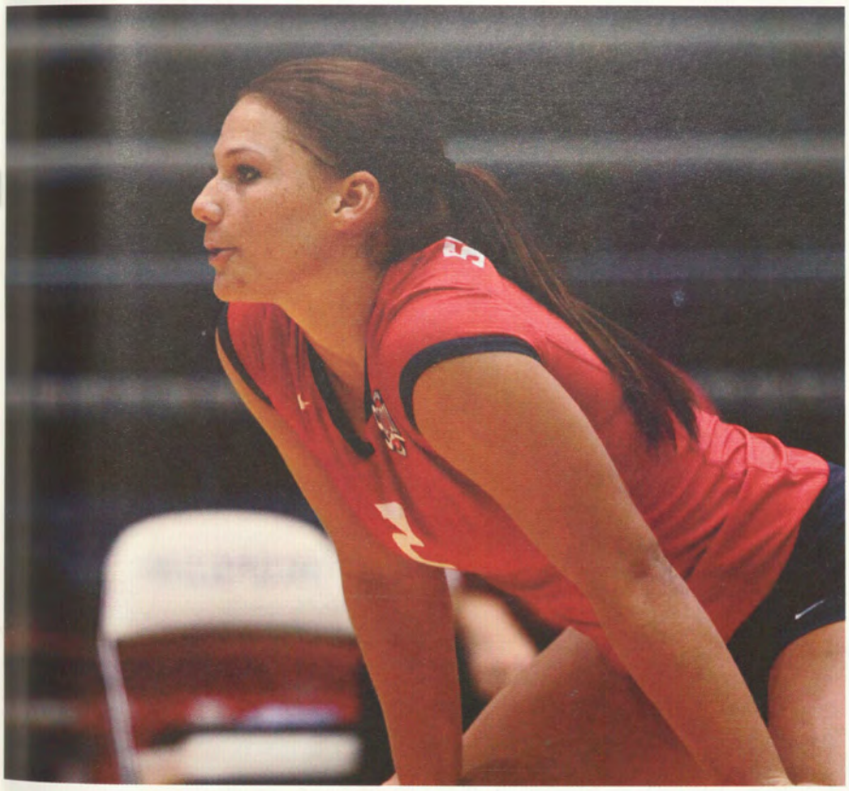
Under the leadership of Derek "Dex" Schroeder, the team has worked hard and achieved notable accomplishments, but has also prioritized team bonding. "Coach Dex pushed us mentally and physically, but he also would take us to dinner and an arcade for much needed fun," Cornay said.

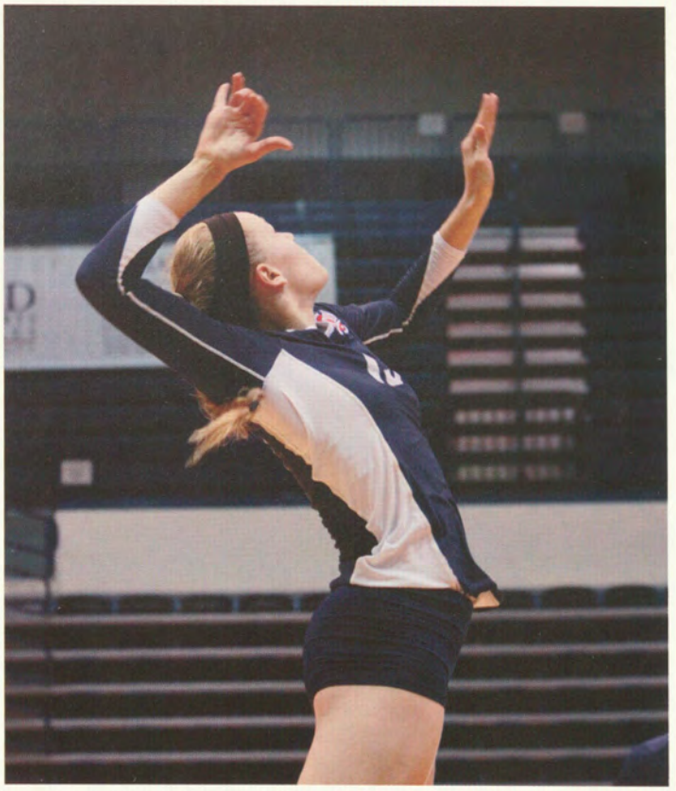
Despite Reesor's profound accomplishments this season, she still said "My most favorite memories from the season are all of the activities the team did outside of practices and games, such as going go-karting, playing laser-tag, trips to the aquarium, zoo and the movies together."

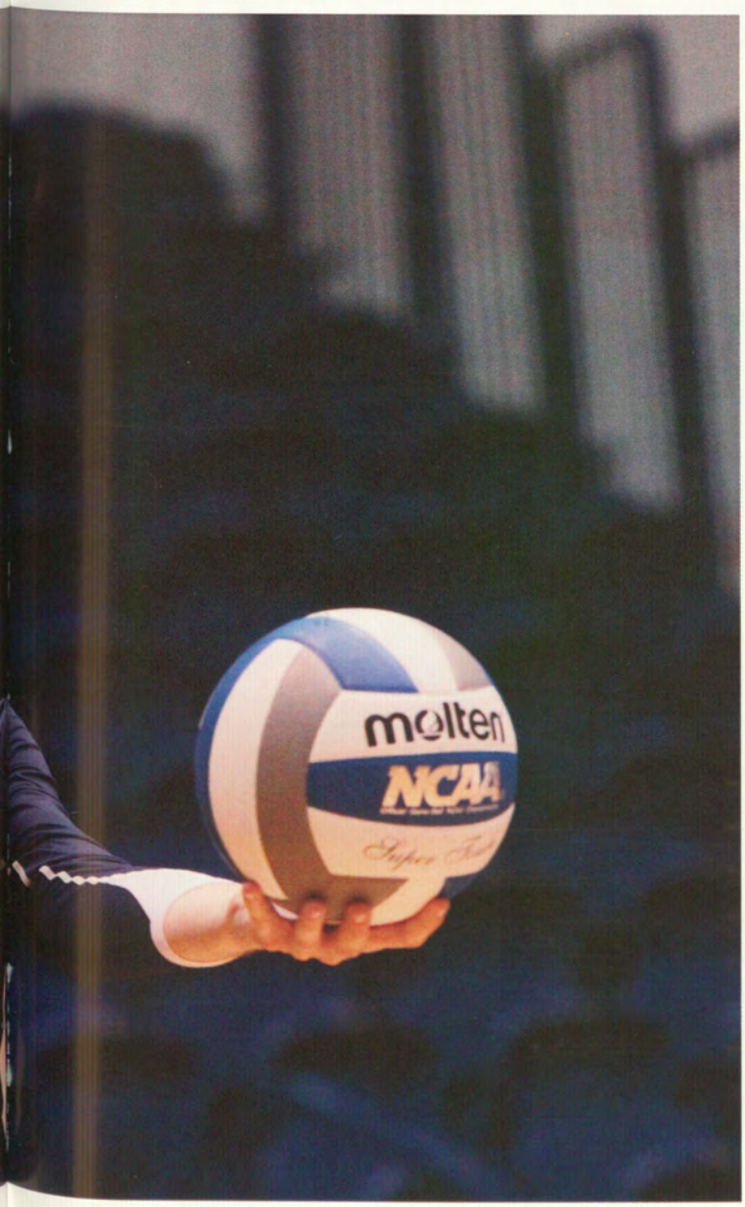
The team is excited to see where their deep bond and hard work take them next season. «

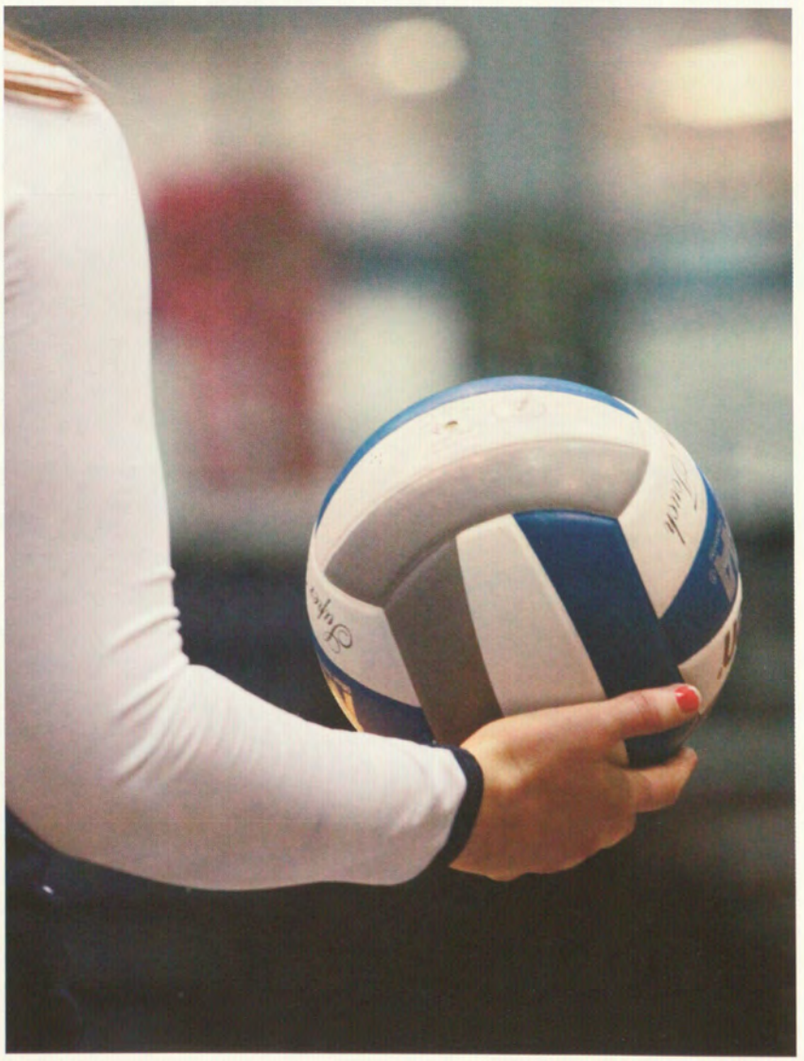


Above: Chelsi Carter was named the SoCon tournament's Most Outstanding Player.



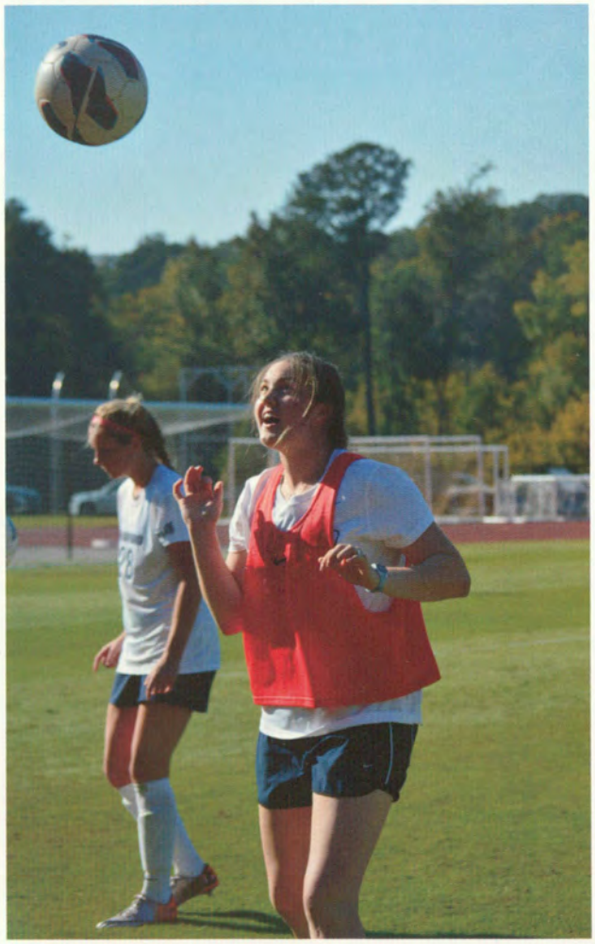


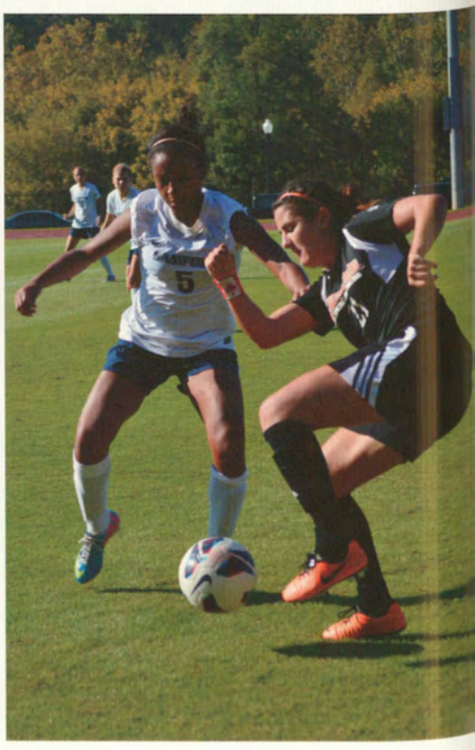


Left: Gabbi Greenwald prepares to serve.

Below: Katie Peters warms up.
Right: Alissa Hansen prepares to kick the ball downfield during a game against The Citadel.





Above: Ariane Lukens plays defense against an opponent.
Right: Abi Argueta goes up against a Mercer University opponent.

# Women's Soccer

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

The women's soccer team won the SoCon championship title and finished with a 14-8 overall record. Five players earned All-SoCon honors, and head coach Todd Yelton was named SoCon Coach of the Year.

Some of the Bulldogs' most notable wins included their 2-1 victory over 18th-ranked Auburn University and beating Mercer University twice. Senior entrepreneurship and marketing major Brittany Hoffman said, "Any time we have the opportunity to prove to the SEC that we can not only hold our own in the games, but actually win them, it is a really amazing feeling."

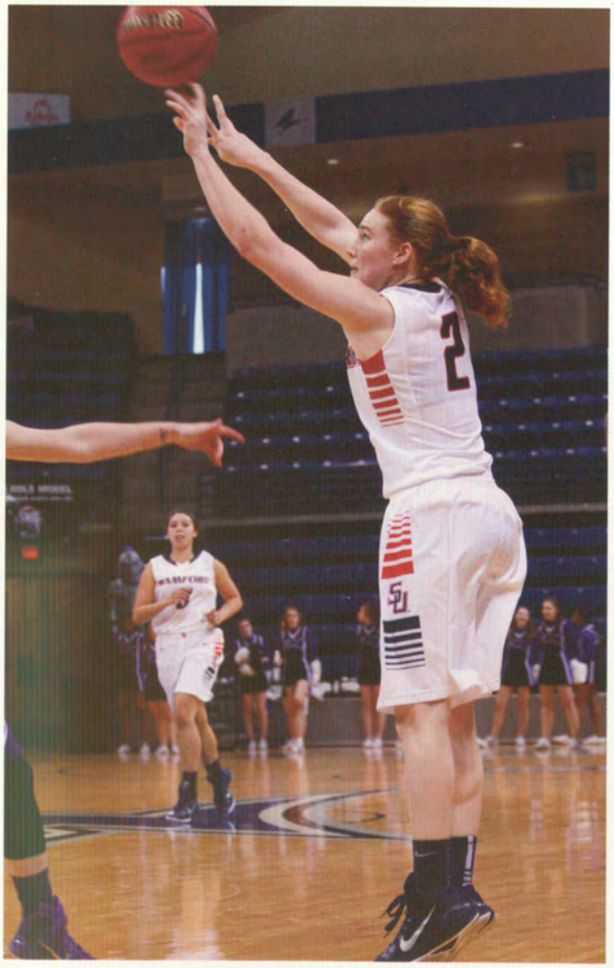
Sophomore family studies major Olivia Cole said this season was one of "maturing" for the young team, as the players developed "a better idea of what it would take to win with the new teams entering the conference."

Though the team started the season with uncertainty, the women committed to excellence, which paid off in the end. Senior math major Katie Danehy said, "Just before the conference championship, the team lost a few games that we should have won, which caused a lot of people to doubt the future success of the team. However, our coaches took that opportunity to encourage us to fight together and to fight to reach our potential. By doing just that we learned that a slump is not the end; that through hard work you can achieve what others may doubt is even possible."

While the soccer team has historically been known for its close-knit players, "this year was extremely special," Cole said. She attributes this difference to "the respect and love the team has for the seniors and the leadership they provide." This bond "inspires you to accomplish something for more than just yourself, but to also create memories with your teammates," Cole said.

Danehy, too, cherished this season "as something really special to hold tightly to." She loved the fact that their small 23-player roster afforded the opportunity "for a unique chemistry and unity that was established early in the pre-season." This unified bond is sure to propel the players into a successful season next year as well. «

Above: Virginia McNeill fights for possession of the ball against Mercer University.
Left: Emily Jones throws the ball in.



Above: Hannah Nichols attempts a 3 pointer.
Right: Ellen Riggins goes up against a Furman defender.

Below: Lydia McGee rises up for a shot against two defenders.

# Women's Basketball

*Article by Katie Matuska, Photos by Tate Holcombe*

The women's basketball team had an overall record of 15-15 at the conclusion of their season. The Bulldogs made it to the Southern Conference championship quarterfinals and three athletes earned post-season honors.

"This is one of the goofiest, craziest, most loving and good-hearted groups of people I have been a part of," redshirt junior nursing major Taylor Reece said. "I will cherish this team forever."

Reece was named to the All-SoCon second team along with sophomore sports administration major Hannah Nichols. Freshman elementary education major Destiney Elliot was named to the SoCon all-freshman team.

"It was an honor and a blessing from God to be given the opportunity to play for such a great program," Elliot said. "I would not have gotten to this point if it were not for my teammates and coaches pushing me to work harder."

One of the most memorable games of the season was when the Bulldogs upset Penn State during the consolation round at the annual Georgia State Thanksgiving Tournament. Although Penn State had a lead over the Bulldogs midgame, the team fought hard to accomplish a 59-56 victory.

However, the team has a lot more to them than just their skills on the court. They are a family.

"I wish the student population could see the random talents and awesome humors of the girls on the team," sophomore undeclared major Ellen Riggins said. "For example, Brittany is an incredible singer, and Hannah is an amazing volleyball player."

"This team is in a very unique situation because we have no seniors," Reece said. "Everyone is coming back next year, so I don't think we have even scratched the surface of our potential." «

# Men's Basketball

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Tate Holcombe*

The basketball team ended this year's exciting season with a 13-19 overall record and countless accomplishments along the way.

Midway through the season, Samford won four games in a row, including a victory against Western Carolina in which the Bulldogs overcame a 21-point, second-half deficit to earn the win. The team also had a historic 80-69 victory at Virginia Military Institute. The players had their best shooting performance of the season against Missouri-Kansas City Kangaroos in the third-place game of the Maui on the Mainland Regional Invitational. The season ended with a hard fight against the UNC Greensboro Spartans in the opening round of the Southern Conference Tournament.

In addition to numerous victories, many of the Bulldog basketball players received notable recognitions this year. Senior exercise science major Tyler Hood was named the Southern Conference's Player of the Week on Dec. 23 and freshman Christen Cunningham was named the SoCon Freshman of the Week three times.

Junior sports administration major Darius Jones-Gibson received Third-Team All SoCon Honors, while freshmen Evan Taylor and Cunningham were both named to the SoCon All-Freshman Team.

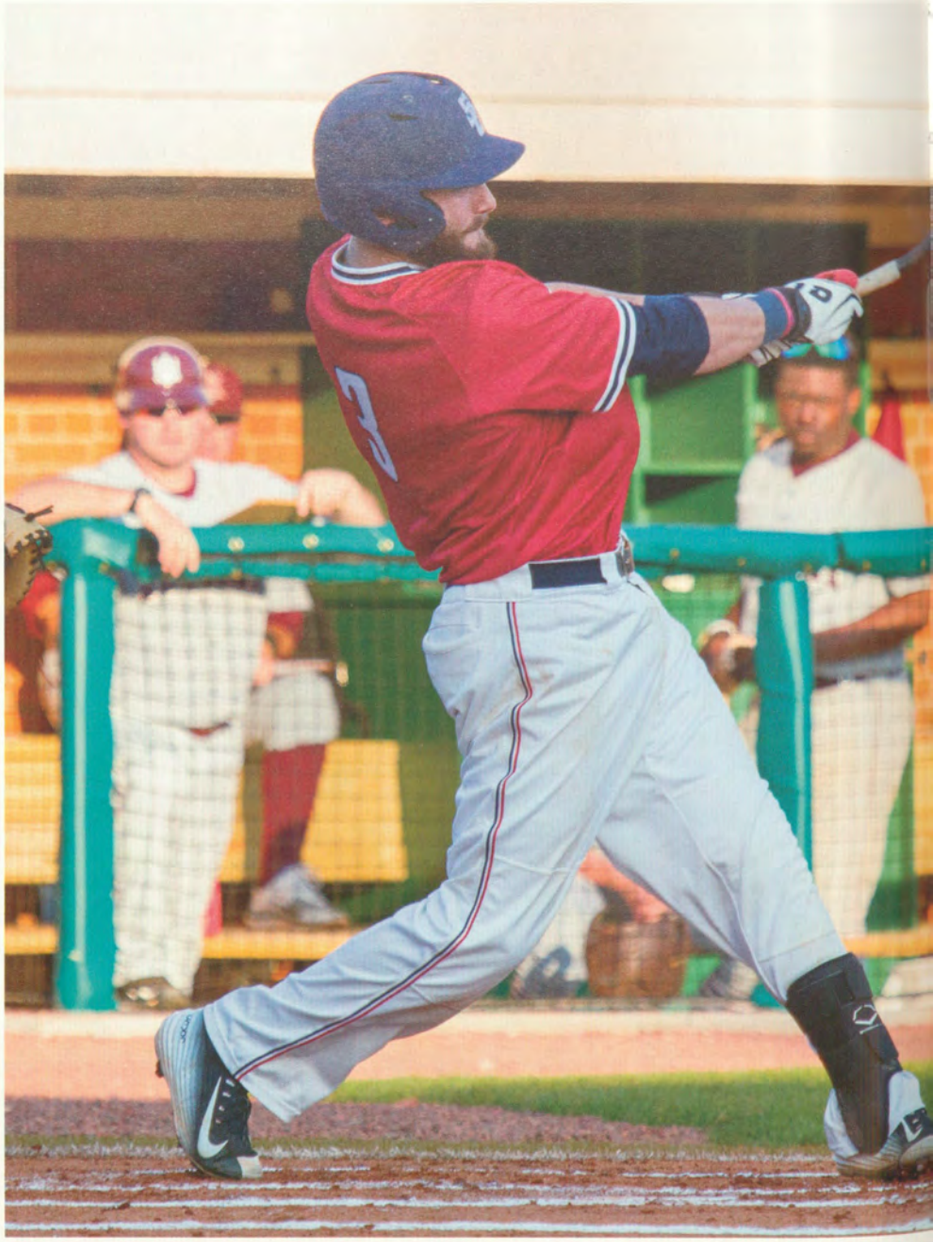
New Head Coach Scott Padgett, who signed a four-year contract extension this year, led the team remarkably well. Padgett was named a finalist for the Joe B. Hall award, which is presented annually to the top first-year coach in college basketball. Director of Athletics Charles Newton said, "I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to work with Padgett as he leads our basketball program in the future. He possesses all of the traits to be a huge success."

Sophomore journalism and mass communication major Brandon Roberts said, "Not only was the style of play different this year, but also the way the players bonded together as one group, not just as individuals, helped the team accomplish a lot more." With a roster consisting of just three seniors and a trio of juniors, the Bulldogs displayed determination this season and were hopeful to see their potential grow in the years to come. «

Below: Marcus Johnson goes up against an opponent.

Left: Evan Taylor takes the ball up strong.
Above: Tyler Hood passes the ball inside to a teammate.

Below: Eric Wright prepares to pitch.
Right: Jared Watson at bat.



Above: The team gathers for a moment together before a game.

# Baseball

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Tate Holcombe*

The baseball team had another successful season, with notable wins against competition such as Auburn, Jacksonville, Furman and UNCG. The team also signed nine new student-athletes.

In the end, the team finished with an overall record of 32-26, taking second-place finish in the SoCon standing with a 14-10-league mark. Samford Baseball also reached the finals of the SoCon tournament for the fourth time in the last five years.

Beyond wins and losses, the team celebrated a number of other accomplishments and titles. The team led the nation in home runs with a school record 85 for the season.

Baseball also set school records for runs battles and slugging percentage. Freshman designated hitter Austin Edens earned All-Region Honors and was named the Southern Conference Player of the Week. In May, junior first baseman Alex Lee was named the Southern Conference's Baseball Player of the Month. The San Diego Padres also selected Samford's senior relief pitcher, Andres Gracia, in the 31st round of the MLB Draft.

In addition to their regular season games, the team held camps and various events. Samford hosted the 11th annual Fall Showcase Camp to allow hitters to take batting practice on the field, defensive sessions, hitting work, and play live games on the field.

More than 100 young fans participated in the fifth-annual Fan Day Sunday, joining in hitting, pitching, and fielding instruction.

In the fall, the team wrapped up practice with the annual Red-Blue World Series at Joe Lee Griffin Field, during which they were split into two evenly matched squads coached by seniors Mark Donham and Brandon Powell.

Not only did the players succeed on the field, but they also formed lasting bonds off the field.

In fact, this is what attracted freshman Hunter Swilling, to Samford. "Samford was my last offer, but when I came to visit I really felt at home," Swilling said. "Coach Tony David and Casey Dunn, as well as all the players, made it feel like we were just one big family."

The Samford Baseball team succeeded in more ways than one and is looking forward to another exciting season next year. «

Above: Senior pitcher Andres Gracia was selected in the 31st round of the MLB draft.

Top: Grey Adams pitches.
Above: Mollie Hanson prepares to pitch.
Right: Abby Adams at bat.

# Softball

*Article by Katie Matuska, Photos by Tate Holcombe and Aly Hathcock*

The dramatic comebacks, immense energy, and dominating wins made the softball team in the 2015 season was one for the books. The Bulldogs were just shy of their first ever Southern Conference regular season title but made great strides towards Selection Sunday.

"This is the most talented team I've ever played on," said junior sports administration major and psychology minor Callie Brister. "There were times we did not play to our full potential but overall, we proved we could hang with the best of them."

Brister was named the SoCon player of the week along with junior nursing major Caitlin Bice.

"It was very humbling to be named SoCon player of the week," Brister said. "That award could have gone to so many of my teammates throughout the season and probably most of them more deserving than me."

Junior exercise science and physical therapy major Megan Dowdy was named to the SoCon first team along with junior nursing major Caroline Wilder.

Dowdy is the first player in program history to be named to the NFCA all-region third team. Freshman pre-pharmacy major Shelby Maze was named the SoCon Freshman Player of the Year.

"I wish the student population understood how much we love having them come to our games. We make our games so lively and fun," said senior marketing major Shelby Scott. "Having more of the student body attend would make it that much better."

The team finished off their season with 33 wins and 22 losses overall. The Bulldogs developed a steadiness and maturity that will be useful for next year.

"Although we had our upsets this team has been great at gutting it out and dominating in the late innings when odds were against us," Bice said. "The fight and passion of this team is hard to find and hard to beat." «

# Cross Country

*Article by Sam Chandler, Photos by Megan Roach*

The Samford University men's and women's cross-country teams demonstrated their potential over the course of a very successful 2014 season.

Both teams benefitted from a mixture of fresh faces and veteran leadership, as new additions to the team transitioned into the world of collegiate running.

Freshman economics major Arsène Guillorel, a French international student, quickly emerged as the men's frontrunner. Guillorel set personal best marks at both the 8K and 10K distances over the course of the season, earning Second Team All-SoCon honors at the Southern Conference championships. Guillorel capped his season with an impressive 14th place finish at the NCAA South Regional championships, missing a bid to nationals by only four places.

According to junior communication studies major Adam Jones, Guillorel added a new dimension to the team dynamic.

"Samford's never really had a frontrunner like this before," Jones said. "There was never that person to try and catch. It's really nice having him here."

The added intensity Guillorel brought to the team ultimately helped Jones, along with the rest of the men, reach a new level of competition. The Dogs placed fourth at the SoCon Championships, tying their highest finish position in school history.

"We had some great performances, and we finished well at conference," Head Coach Lori Strand said. "I was very happy with our guys' season as a whole."

On the women's team, freshman pre-med major Karisa Nelson established herself as the frontrunner from day one.

Nelson led the Bulldogs in every race, gradually lowering her 5K personal best to 17 minutes and 41 seconds.

"I set really high goals, but my most important goal was to be faster than I was last year," Nelson said. "I beat that goal."

Nelson, along with junior pre-law major Rachel Wooten, led the women's team to a third-place finish at the SoCon Championships. The duo earned Second Team All-SoCon honors for their 12th and 14th place finishes.

Nelson, freshman science and religion major Megan Roach and freshman pre-physical therapy major Emma Garner each earned a spot on the All-SoCon freshman team.

"I think our conference meet was great," Strand said. "Those three freshman girls are incredibly talented." «

Above: Samford's men's team placed fourth at the SoCon championships.

Left: The women's team achieved a third-place finish at the SoCon Championships.

# Track and Field

*Article by Sam Chandler, Photos by Tate Holcombe*

The men's and women's track and field teams ran, jumped, and threw their way to one of the most successful seasons in program history during their 2015 campaign.

At February's SoCon Indoor Track and Field Championships, five Bulldog athletes won individual titles, spurring both the men and women to a pair of runner-up team finishes.

Freshman jumper Tiana Pisoni highlighted the group of individual champions, earning SoCon Freshman of the Year honors after claiming her first conference title in the women's triple jump.

"I just went out and did what I could," Pisoni said. "I didn't really let the competition get in my head or anything. I just focused on my jumps and the results came after that."

At the 2015 SoCon Outdoor Track and Field Championships, the men's team clinched its second straight outdoor conference title, spoiling pre-meet projections and stunning Western Carolina.

"We showed this team has heart," head coach Rod Tiffin said. "You could see it in them on their face from the moment we walked out here on this track that they were not going to be denied that championship."

Senior thrower Sidney Jordan (Most Outstanding Athlete & Most Outstanding Field Performer), junior mid-distance runner Brandon Hazouri (Most Outstanding Track Performer) and freshman sprinter Carson Howe (Freshman of the Year) swept post-meet honors after churning out a flurry of exceptional performances.

"For those guys to do all that they did, scoring twenty-plus points apiece and just dominating their event areas, you can't ask for more than that from them," Tiffin said.

Eleven Bulldog athletes qualified for the NCAA East Preliminary and three of them punched their tickets to Eugene, Oregon, site of the 2015 NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships.

Freshman Keyth Fightmaster (high jump), redshirt freshman Tray Oates (pole vault) and Hazouri (800) were each named Honorable Mention All-Americans for competing at the national meet. «

Left: The men's team celebrated their second straight conference title.

Left: Katelyn Brock and Marie DeMedicis competed in the Track and Field Championships.

# Men's Tennis

*Article by Rachel Stanback, Photos by Sara Nolin and Aly Hathcock*

The men's tennis team made great strides and developed potential among younger members of the team, finishing with an overall record of 10-10. The team played a series of challenging competitions early in their season before matching up with SoCon competition. The team defeated UAB in a cross-town match held at Samford.

The Bulldogs were strengthened by talented younger athletes who succeeded in critical moments.

Freshman pre-business major Eduardo Lourido Sanchez claimed victories in the final two sets to secure the Bulldogs' 4-3 team win over 47th-ranked University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Freshman engineering physics major Justin Ghavami's singles victory against UNC Greensboro advanced Samford to the semifinal round of the SoCon tournament.

In addition to younger players' contributions, upperclassman leadership made an impact on the team's progress.

Senior communication studies major Austin Akers said he pushed himself personally and as a leader as the team's only senior. "We definitely have incredible team chemistry and talent. The team should be excited about that moving forward," Akers said. "Playing with this team was my favorite and most fun season of my Samford career." Akers was honored on Senior Day, and in a fitting end, he led Samford's team to victory.

The team looked forward to momentum in seasons to come. "As we are transitioning into a fresh season, I'm most looking forward to creating a championship atmosphere by bringing a high level of energy to the battlefield every day," junior finance major Trey Carter said. «

Above: Austin Akers and Henry Moore during a "Power of Pink" match.

Below: Niba N'tcha was named SoCon player of the year.

# Women's Tennis

*Article by Rachel Stanback, Photos by Sara Nolin*

The women's tennis team had a season that will not soon be forgotten. They won a regular season title and defeated East Tennessee State University to become SoCon Champions, going on to compete against 13th-ranked University of Alabama in the NCAA tournament. The SoCon victory was the team's first title since joining the league in 2009. "Nothing could beat that feeling," senior journalism and mass communication major Yasmeen Ebada said.

The victory was especially sweet because the team had gotten close in the previous season, only to be defeated in the final match. "During my senior year, it was really special to go undefeated and go out being on top," senior sports medicine major Ann Marie Lyon said.

The team faced tough opposition in the season openings. "We played a lot of tough matches at the beginning of the season that really prepared us for conference," Ebada said. The team went undefeated in SoCon play and ended the season with a 15-8 record overall.

The season was marked by individual accomplishments as well as those of the team. Senior psychology major Niba N'tcha became the first tennis player in Samford history to be named SoCon player of the year. N'tcha earned First-Team All SoCon honors for the second season.

Head Coach David Vest was named SoCon for the sixth time in his eight seasons as head coach at Samford.

Dedication to their sport and to each other made the season a success both on and off the court.

"For me, these girls are like my sisters. we pretty much did everything together," Ebada said. «

# Golf

*Article by Katie Matuska, Photos by Ashton Nix and Kate Collom*

Both the women and men's golf teams had a successful year. The men's team started their season under the direction of head coach Al Del Greco.

"We got a new coach in the fall, and I believe everyone has benefitted," junior entrepreneurship and management major Mac Hennessy said. "Coach Del Greco has done a great job with the program this year."

The team did well at various tournaments including a ninth place finish at the F&M Bank APSU Intercollegiate tournament. However, many of the golfers attributed the success to their brand new team vehicle.

"The most memorable moment was when Coach Del Greco surprised us with a new Sprinter Mercedes van," Hennessy said. "It was a great surprise that will help recruiting in years to come."

"Getting our new Mercedes golf bus was something I will never forget," junior accounting major Jake Miller said. "Seeing that new van that Coach Del Greco got us made me feel very appreciated and blessed to be part of the Samford Men's Golf team."

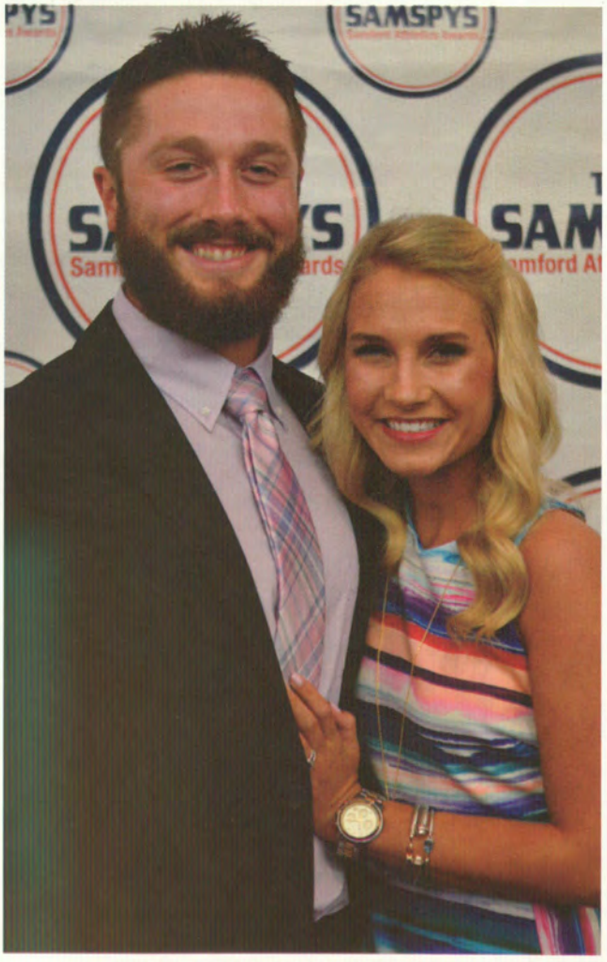
Senior health sciences major Bailey Gray and sophomore accounting major Sydney Needham received the honor of being the Southern Conference Golfer of the Week.

"The golf team this year has done really well," senior fitness and health promotion major Emily Stallings said. "We have a really young team but there is so much potential for this team to go far."

The women's golf team won fifth place at the Kiawah Island Spring Classic and 13th at the USA Women's Invitational. With a young team, the golfers are excited to see what the future holds. «

Left: The women's team gathered for a group picture.

Left: Ashton Nix follows through.



This page, top right: Seniors Katie Danehy and Tyler Hood were named Miss Bulldog and Mr. Bulldog for their contributions to Samford athletics.

Below: Track athletes celebrated their awards.

# SAMSPYs

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

The Samford Athletic Department and the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee hosted the seventh-annual SAMPSY Award Ceremony on April 27th at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham to recognize Samford's student-athletes, teams, coaches, and administrators for their accomplishments on and off the field this year. Throughout the evening, 21 awards were given out to deserving teams and individuals who dedicated their time and talents to bettering the Samford athletic department.

The first awards of the night were the female and male Team Academic Awards, for which the women's tennis team and men's golf won. The Best Finish Award was allotted to the men's basketball team after their performance against Western Carolina and East Tennessee. The women's volleyball team took home the Best Championship Performance award after one of their most memorable comebacks in program history. The Bulldogs rallied the number one seat in the conference to win the SoCon Championship. The Most Outstanding Team Award was given to the men and women's track and field teams after a highly successful season. The two teams won the SoCon Outdoor Track and Field Championship, becoming the first private university to do so in history.

There were also numerous individual award recipients, including Miss Bulldog, Katie Danehy, senior soccer player, and Mr. Bulldog, Tyler Hood, senior basketball player. Danehy, a mathematics major, said, "I feel so honored to even be considered for Miss Bulldog because this award shows the impact Samford Athletics has had on me. The Lord has truly blessed me by allowing me to play the sport I love in an environment where my value is not primarily placed in my performance, but in who I am as a person."

Michaela Reesor, senior volleyball player, was named Best Female Athlete and Jaquiski Tartt, senior football player, was named Best Male Athlete. Other notable awards were given to the Fan of the Year, Samantha Stallings, and Best Blooper, given to Sidney Jordan. Stallings, a senior journalism and mass communication major, said, "The award was a great way to cap off my senior year. I have made so many friends with the athletes and it was great to celebrate all of their accomplishments with them."

From dinner, to awards, and fellowship amongst all the athletes, SAMPSY Awards is a long anticipated event for students each year.

AnnMarie Lyon, a senior sports medicine major and tennis player, said, "It is a time where all the athletes receive the recognition they deserve. We get out of our normal workout attire and into cocktail dresses and suits. As an athlete, it has always been one of my favorite nights of the year!" «

# Club Sports

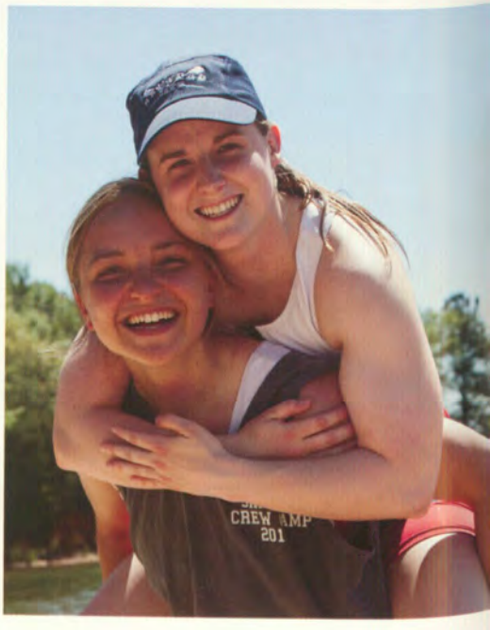
## Crew

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Sarah Bailey*

While still relatively new to Samford University, rowing is the nation's oldest intercollegiate sport. It is often said that Crew is more than just a sport – it's a culture, and this year's Samford Crew Club President, Sarah Bailey, a junior Sports Administration major, would agree. Samford Crew is a completely student-led organization, which is extremely rare amongst the teams they compete against.

This year, the team averaged about 30 rowers, who dedicated five to six days per week to working out on the erg machines on campus or at Lake Purdy. The team competed against SEC teams, clubs from various cities and other university club teams. The rowers participate in three regattas, or races, per semester. The fall season races are 6,000 meters long, and the spring semester races are 2,000 meters long. This year, the team traveled to various locations, such as Clemson, SC; Oakridge, Tenn.; and Gainesville, Tenn. for their races.

Beyond practices and regattas, Bailey says, "We look at our team as a family and enjoy the challenges that come along with operating our own organization and competing against teams with more resources than we have. Samford Crew has been home for so many of us." «



The Crew team traveled to locations around the Southeast to compete.

# Women's Lacrosse

*Article by Riley Ford, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

Sometimes characterized as the "fastest game on two feet," lacrosse is one of the most rapidly growing sports among college students, and the women's club lacrosse team continued to experience this growth during the 2014-2015 school year. The women's lacrosse team existed as an organization for women to play a sport they are passionate about at the competitive level, maintain athletic fitness, be a part of a team and build lasting community. The team competed against other southeastern colleges during the spring semester after practicing and scrimmaging in the fall. This year's women's lacrosse players faced opponents including Alabama, Auburn, Mississippi State, Tennessee and Clemson. The team not only grew in their experience, but also in their bonds with one another this school year. «

# Ultimate Frisbee

*Article by Riley Ford, Photos by Garrett Boucher*

For the first time in three years, the Ultimate Frisbee club was able to field an official team and play in tournaments sanctioned by the USAU, or the governing body of collegiate Ultimate Frisbee.

The team consisted of 21 students as well as a volunteer coach, Stephen Rhea, a 2010 Samford graduate. The players participated in five tournaments at Samford, Florida State University, Georgia Southern, Vanderbilt, and the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

Team president and senior computer science major Garrett Boucher said, "The goal for this season was to gain a ton of experience for this relatively new team by playing some really good competition. Our team played the most regular season games out of any DIII school in the nation, which puts us in a good position to perform well next year."

As the Ultimate club continues in the early stages of its development, the players continue to focus on building a group that can fellowship and play frisbee simultaneously. The organization seeks to provide an atmosphere of friendship and to see the success it has already experienced in its short existence.

The players were looking forward to the fall, when they will focus on recruiting, conditioning and practicing to prepare for the official spring season next year. «

# Swimming

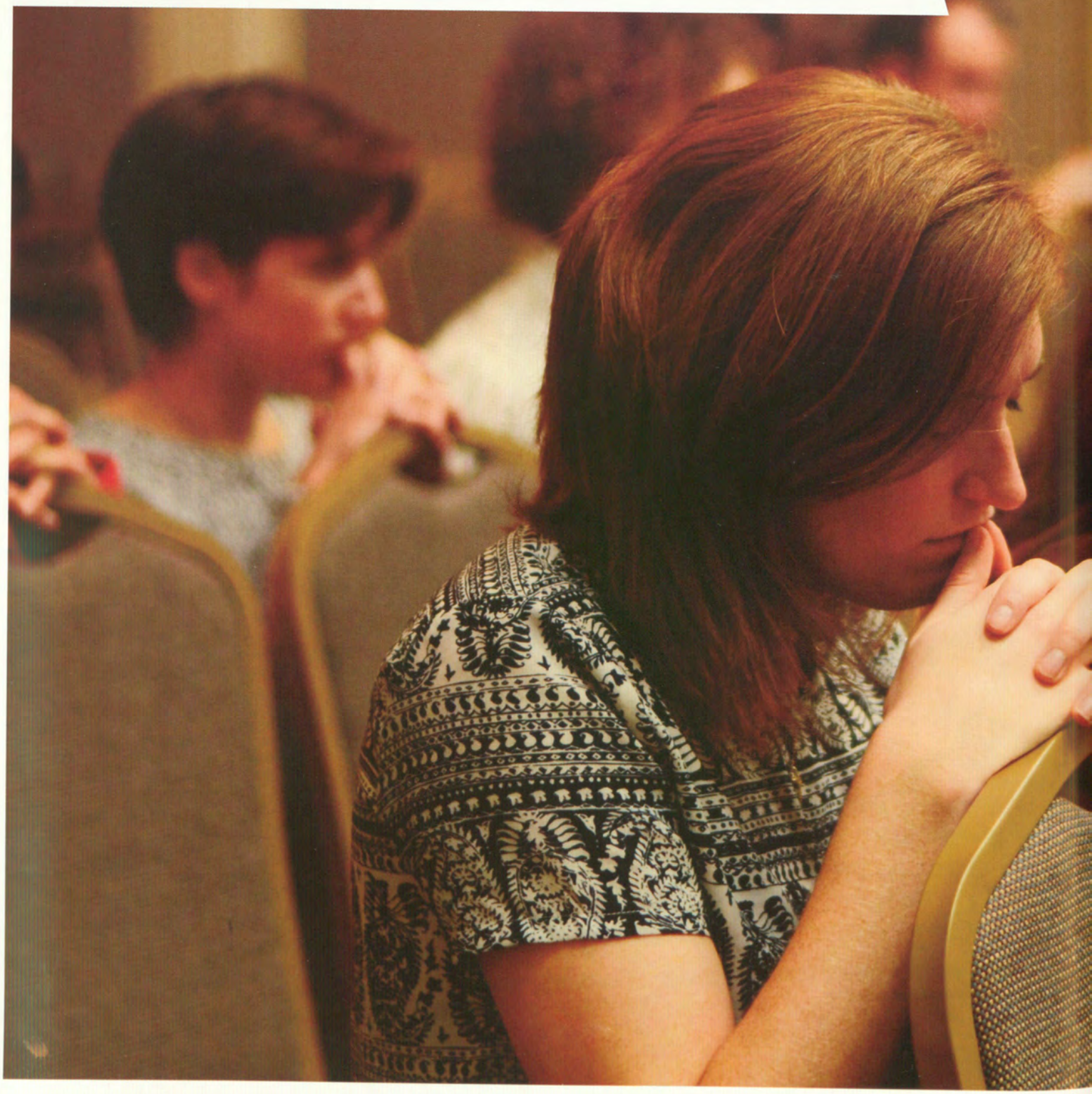
*Article by Riley Ford, Photos by Lauren Cooksey*

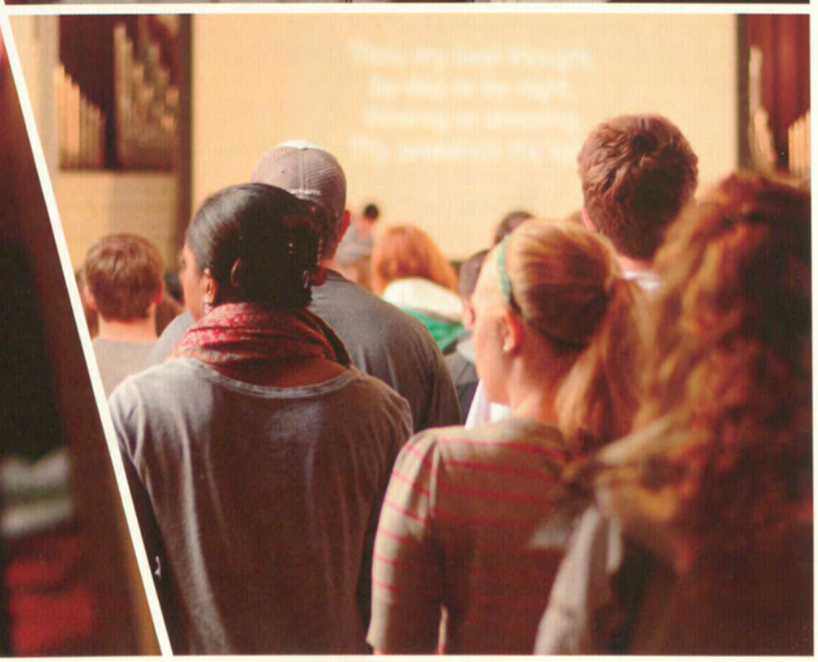
The swim team was the newest club sport at Samford, wrapping up its inaugural year. The team began in fall 2014 as an opportunity for swimmers to continue or begin swimming in a club atmosphere, with the potential to compete in the future. The team's first meet took place at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, where they finished in 2nd place. They then competed against 1,500 other swimmers at Georgia Tech. The team also participated in various bonding activities throughout the year, such as off-campus yoga class.

President Lauren Cooksey, a sophomore business major, said, "My favorite part of the Samford Swim Club is that the people who have joined the club come from all diverse backgrounds around campus. There are teammates from every year, different majors, all areas of campus housing, various interests, but we all have swimming in common."

The Samford Swim Club has quickly become a great outlet for swimming enthusiasts to meet people they otherwise might have the opportunity to spend time with. «

# Faith





# Faith News

## Cadre program expanded

*October 30, 2014*
*Rachel Sinclair*

Proposals for student-led cadres in the spring of 2015 are now available on Banner.

The opportunity for students to propose and lead cadres became available this fall. Brian Pitts, the campus minister overseeing cadres, said it was one of several changes regarding the structure of cadres.

Unlike previous years, students must now attend five out of six cadre meetings to receive credit, rather than five out of eight. Sign-ups for the spring cadres have also been moved from the traditional third week of the semester to the first week, so the cadres will begin two weeks earlier than normal.

Student-led cadres are a new idea that began this semester, with two out of the six non-service cadres being led by students.

Josh Kimberlin led "Living a Life of Purity," and Katie Woodruff led "Breathe – Making room for Sabbath." Kimberlin, a junior sport administration major, said that he wanted to lead a cadre inspired by a book he had been reading. "It was great to see the other students step up as leaders in the discussions," Kimberlin said. "Overall, it was a great experience, and I plan on continuing the cadre in the years to come."

Woodruff, a senior communications major, said that her cadre allowed her to make lasting and encouraging friendships. "I was able to connect with the group of girls who signed up for the cadre on a more personal level," Woodruff said. "The girls in my group taught me how to share the parts of my life that were uncomfortable. They taught me that I was not alone," she said.

Students can submit cadre proposals by going to the Spiritual Life tab in Banner. There they will also find a FAQ page for further explanation.

Traditionally, cadres have been held at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursday. However, student leaders can choose any time and place for their specific cadre.

Pitts stressed the fact that student proposals must have a Christian focus and adhere to the university's stated purpose for cadres. "It can't just be about environmentalism," Pitts said. "It can be about the Christian response to environmentalism. I don't have anything against environmentalism, but that's just not what a cadre is," he said.

Pitts said that student-led cadres will hopefully engage students with relevant topics. "I'm saying, 'Students, what is it that we need to be talking about?'" Pitts said. "You have the power to propose."

## Office of Spiritual Life offers weekly day of prayer

*September 9, 2014*
*Rachael Headley*

Office of Spiritual Life intern, Nicole Smith, and Minister to Students, Renee Pitts, felt that there was a missing link in the spiritual community at Samford last semester. Although there are a variety of campus ministries and community churches available, Smith and Pitts wanted to create a new way for students and faculty to connect through prayer. With this inspiration, they designated a one-hour window for the campus to come together and pray.

The new gathering, currently known as "Campus Prayer," kicked off on September 3, and will be held every Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Reid Chapel. During this hour, attendees are invited to pray for the campus, the country and the world. Attendees are also invited to come and go as needed during the gathering, Smith and Pitts said.

The idea for Campus Prayer came to Pitts when remembering how powerful prayer services had been during times of struggle and tragedy on campus. She began to think that the same power and sense of community could be achieved through weekly meetings. "Even if only five people come, we consider that a blessing," Pitts said. Each week, leaders let prayer topics evolve naturally with current events and the things that they feel are "pressed upon their hearts." In the first meeting, the group prayed specifically for the health and safety of Samford athletes and the cessation of urban violence.

"We are all connected... We are all made in the image of God," Pitts said. "Gathering as a community gives us strength." Smith and Pitts also thought through the timing of Campus Prayer and decided that the midweek time is perfect for the purpose of the meetings, Smith said. "Wednesday can be a day when you're over the excitement of a new week and you're ready for the weekend," Smith said. "It seemed like a good time to really pray through all of that."

The new program's tagline is, "gathering together to pray for this campus and beyond," Smith said. Smith and Pitts also said they both hope to see the Spirit move through the attendees and even make way for small groups to form outside of the weekly meeting. Currently, Smith and Pitts are the only official leaders for the new program and are in the process of garnering volunteers to help lead the meetings. "We took a risk," Smith said, "and now we'll see what happens."

# Students spend spring break in Nepal

*March 26, 2015*
*Cameron Teaney*

Trekking through the Himalayas to reach the isolated peoples of Nepal was not a typical spring break vacation for senior journalism major Courtney Guhl.

"I decided to go toward the end of last semester when I heard about the trip from my small group leader," Guhl said. "I knew that I wanted to do something different with my spring break and this was the perfect opportunity."

After a 30-hour journey halfway across the world, Guhl and seven other Samford students began the weeklong excursion.

The first day in Nepal, the group had orientation and visited the holy sites in the area, sophomore education major Abby Johnson said. Monday, they were taken by van to the city from which they would begin their trek. Tuesday through Thursday they visited different villages, sharing their faith with the non-Christians in the area and encouraging the local believers. On Friday, the group traveled back to Kathmandu by van.

The Church at Brook Hills organized the trip for college students and was planned through an organization that created the Footstool Project that seeks to minister to unreached people in Nepal. The team met on the Sundays preceding the journey to prepare spiritually and discuss the logistical side of the trip. They also hiked as a group at Oak Mountain and regularly exercised to physically equip themselves for the hikes in the Himalayas. To Guhl, the main focus of the trip was ministering to the unreached Nepali people.

"Nepal is primarily Hindu and Buddhist, so asking someone to convert to Christianity is asking them to deny their entire way of life," Guhl said. "Therefore, our purpose was to plant seeds in the villages however we could whether that be sharing the Gospel, playing with the Nepali kids or just treating the people well."

The great number of Nepalis that had not been exposed to Christianity proved to be one of the most challenging aspects of the journey, Guhl said. This reality especially resonated with Johnson when the team visited a Hindu holy site, which included several funeral pyres.

"The Hindus believe they must be taken there within 24 hours of death; I watched bodies of these people who had never heard the Truth burning," Johnson said. "As I watched this, I saw three young boys digging in the river below looking for any jewelry pushed in the river with debris from the pyres and couldn't help but think that one day these small children will be the bodies burning on those funeral pyres unless someone tells them about Christ."

Although the trip came with physical and emotional challenges, Johnson said that the experience was overall rewarding and that they hope to return to Nepal in the future.

"Having seen what I have seen, I do not think I can live the rest of my life without returning," Guhl said. "It is tough for sure, but so rewarding, so if you have the chance to go on a trip to the 10/40 window, do it."

Below: Many students participated in Home groups that met throughout the year.

# Office of Spiritual Life

*Article by Teddy Vance, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

The Office of Spiritual Life (OSL) was an important aspect of the Samford community. The office worked to promote Christ in various ways. The primary functions of the OSL included home groups, campus worship, spiritual life assistants and the global mission scholarship program. Each of these components of the OSL had unique purposes.

Home groups provided a new opportunity for students to learn and fellowship with each other and with Samford faculty and staff. "Home groups are a gathering of 10-12 students in the home of a faculty or staff member to enjoy a meal, read scripture, pray together and foster a sense of community among people who support each other through the ups and downs of college life," Minister to the University Matt Kerlin said.

The campus worship aspect of the Office of Spiritual Life consisted primarily of convocation events on Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m. in Reid Chapel and featured a variety of staff, guests and student speakers as well as musical performances. The office also introduced weekly prayer gatherings in Reid Chapel on Wednesdays and held two retreats for students to take a break from the pace of campus life.

The Office of Spiritual Life reached around the world with their global missions projects. For the summer of 2015, the OSL sponsored three international mission trips to Ecuador, the Middle East and East Asia.

By expanding its reach both on and off campus, the Office of Spiritual Life became an important presence both on campus and in international communities. «

# RAIN

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Sara Nolin*

Based on passionate worship, revival and revealing the Father's heart through teaching, worship and fellowship, the RAIN worship movement gathered at Samford each week.

Each Tuesday evening, the group hosted a Bible study. On Thursdays, they hosted a worship service in Reid Chapel to provide students with an opportunity to encounter God in a free environment through intimate worship and prayer with a loving community.

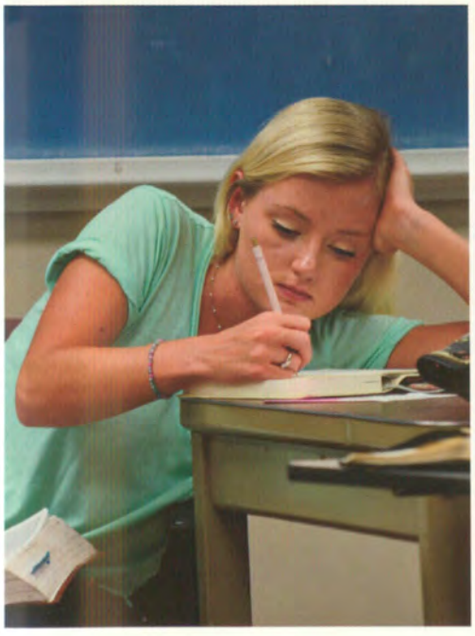
Junior religion major Hannah Holland said, "We also desire for people to recognize that encounters with God don't have to take place in large group settings, but that God desires for this face-to-face encounter to daily occur as the fullness of God dwells within us."

RAIN worship also hosted events, such as a movie showing of "Holy Ghost" in the planetarium. The leadership wanted to display how everyday people, like the students at Samford, are empowered by the Holy Spirit to spread God's love miraculously all around the world. The ministry also had a baptism for one of the multiple students who accepted Christ.

Savannah Newman, a junior mathematics major and worship leader at RAIN, said, "This ministry is different from other campus ministries because our goal is to create a calming and free environment for students to come and experience the presence of God. There isn't much structure to what we do, but that is completely intentional."

The group held meetings and worship services in a variety of locations and styles. "This style of worship is led from a posture of complete surrender to the Father's heart," Newman said. "We worship for hours sometimes and each week is incredibly and uniquely powerful."

The RAIN leadership sought to provide an environment that was unmatched at Samford, creating a place to be vulnerable with the Lord, for students to clear their heads and spend time in the presence of God. «



Left: Students met for Bible study.
Above: RAIN hosted worship services in Reid Chapel.

# Campus Outreach

*Article by Katie Matuska, Photos by Stanley Zeng*

Campus Outreach desired to reach students with the gospel and train them to be more devoted followers of Christ.

"I love the emphasis that Campus Outreach puts on evangelism and discipleship," junior journalism mass communication major Corry Mulligan said. "It challenges students every week to engage in life-on-life ministry and share their faith with their peers so that students on this campus will know Christ."

Campus Outreach offered fellowship, worship and sermons each week. The meetings became a staple in many Samford students' schedules.

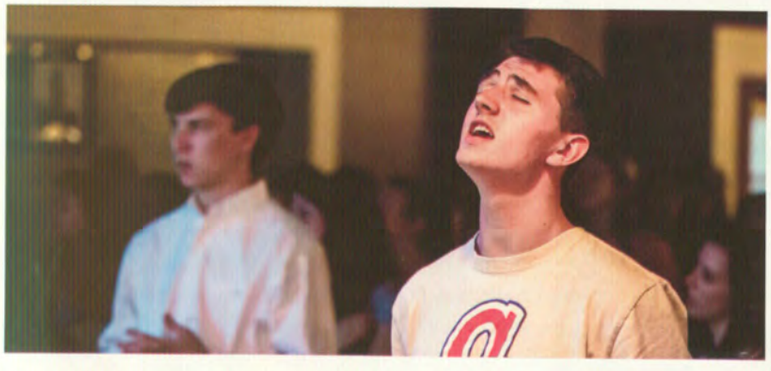
However, Campus Outreach was so much more than weekly meetings on campus. The organization's first event of the year was New Years Conference. College students from multiple schools came together to learn about the Bible and participate in worship.

The organization also took part in Summer Beach Project, a nine-week evangelism-training program near Destin, Fla.

Each student was required to work a 40-hour week along with multiple training sessions. For those who have experienced this community, many say it was the best summer of their life.

"The environment is unreal; I think that deciding to go to Beach Project might be the best decision I have made over my collegiate career, as my experiences there will undoubtedly affect the course of the remainder of my life," Carrick said.

"My favorite thing about Campus Outreach is the community. I have met some of my best friends through it and have had the opportunity to meet and learn from people of all ages," communications studies major Adele Bowler said. "Campus Outreach is one of my favorite things that I have been involved in at Samford." «



Top: Trip Wood led worship at Campus Outreach.
Right: Students gathered in Harry's Coffeehouse for worship each week.

Below: Students participated in an RUF hiking trip to Ruffner Mountain.

# RUF

*Article and Photos by Aly Hathcock*

While Reformed University Fellowship has been an integral part of spiritual life on campus, the organization underwent several major changes this year. Large Group moved from Mondays to Tuesdays and welcomed a new RUF intern, Annie Kate Schuler.

"This change has shown to be beneficial in working with student schedules," sophomore nursing major Kerith Helms said. "We were glad to welcome Annie Kate into our Samford RUF community. It has been a joy to have her invest in the lives of Samford students."

Each year, Step Sing season causes most organizations to halt all activities. This year, RUF decided to do something different. "We decided to do 'RUF at Home' during Step Sing this year," RUF campus minister Matt Terrell said.

During the start of the spring semester, Terrell led a mini-series on the Church at the home of Covenant Presbyterian's pastor. Though the group of students who were able to participate was smaller than the regular Large Group audience, students had an opportunity for deeper fellowship and a deeper study on the history of the Church and its role in their lives today.

Even in light of the numerous changes at RUF, the core of RUF stayed the same. "It's a community of students who are learning how to love Jesus," senior nutrition and dietetics major Charita Lewis said.

"It's a place for the strong and the weak, the doubting and the sure and the believer and the non-believer alike."

Terrell also introduced a question and answer session at the end of each sermon. Students were able to anonymously text him their questions about the topic, and Terrell answered these questions by providing honest, biblical explanations.

"These past three years, RUF has shaped me into the person I am today. The solid Biblical teaching has stretched me and deepened my spiritual growth," Helms said. "Through RUF, God has continued to reveal to me His boundless grace, infinite mercy and love that He has lavished upon me. RUF has been a safe place for me where I have felt that I am truly accepted and loved for who I am. I have made many life-long friends, and I know that RUF will have a long-lasting impact on me for the rest of my life." «

# R.A.N.S.O.M.

*Article by Teddy Vance, Photos by Sara Nolin*

One of the more unique campus worship services that has arisen over the last couple of years is the RANSOM. RANSOM, which stands for Radical Athlete and Student Oasis Ministry, was a student-led worship service that met every Monday night in the Mountain View Lobby. RANSOM initially started as a small worship group for athletes with two separate services for men and women but branched out to become a combined service for everyone.

Despite its initial founding as a service for athletes, the group decided to allow non-athletes to join. "A lot of people have a hard time finding a service to fit in to," said Will Cavanaugh, a senior economics and sports marketing double major and a leader of RANSOM.

Cavanaugh also noted that RANSOM focused on helping members become leaders in the community by taking what they learn from RANSOM and applying these lessons and skills in a post-Samford world.

RANSOM tried to differentiate itself from other worship services by appealing to both serious believers of Christ and people who are just starting to build their faith. By doing this, RANSOM was successful in attracting a dedicated audience across the Samford community.

"RANSOM tries to avoid the more traditional service route," Jenson Harper, a sophomore secondary education major and frequent attendee of RANSOM, said.

RANSOM has also seen an expansion at UAB over the last couple of years. Similar to Samford's service, the UAB RANSOM group has a weekly meeting and discusses portions of the Bible in a similar manner to Samford's group.

"RANSOM is such a genuine community of believers who come together as they are," senior dual degree engineering program major Mitchell Morris said. "It's all about worship, growth and building each other up." «

Right: Students worship during a R.A.N.S.O.M. gathering.
Above: Students smile for a photo after R.A.N.S.O.M.

# Catholic Student Association

*Article by Abby Colella, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

Founded in 2009, the Catholic Student Association was alive and thriving on campus. Around 40 students participated in the organization's weekly and special events. According to the president of CSA, senior journalism and mass communication major Ashley Martin, "The purpose of CSA is to dive deeper into the roots of our traditional Catholic faith. We believe as Catholics that we must evangelize to everyone in a direct and tangible way, so our goal is to get out of our comfort zones, especially on a predominantly Baptist campus."

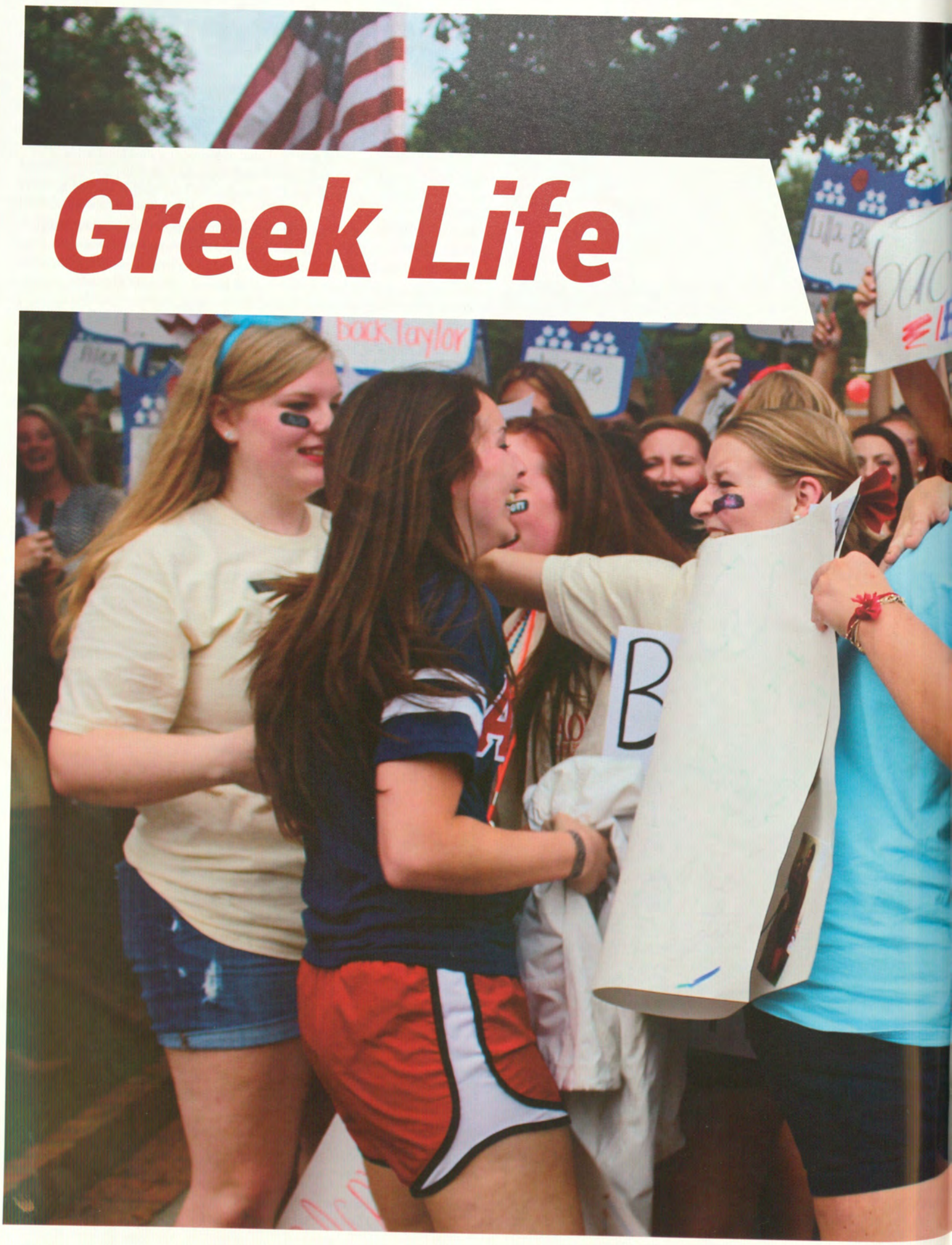
The weekly events included Mass on Tuesdays, Bible study on Thursdays and a monthly speaker. CSA also had special events, such as service projects, social events and conferences or retreats. Mass service was held each week during convocation hour and was led by Father Douglas Vu. Bible studies were held at Dr. Chuck Stokes' house, the faculty advisor for CSA. "It's nice to go into his home and have a home environment; it's relaxing," Dylan Jedlovec, a sophomore business, economics and marketing major and PR officer of CSA, said.

The service events in the past included volunteering at a local crisis pregnancy center, local nursing homes and food shelters downtown. In January, Stokes accompanied about 15 students to the SEEK retreat in Nashville.

This organization has made a remarkable impact on Catholic students at Samford. "When I tell them [parents] about CSA and how serious many of our Catholic students are about practicing their faith, they find it very reassuring. I have no doubt that we have a few more Catholic students at Samford because of CSA," Stokes said. Martin said, "It's so refreshing to find a group of Catholics on a Southern Baptist campus who practice the same traditions as you! It feels like you're right at home when you have people who see eye-to-eye on your Catholic beliefs." «

Above: Sarah Summa takes communion from Father Douglas Vu.

# Greek Life



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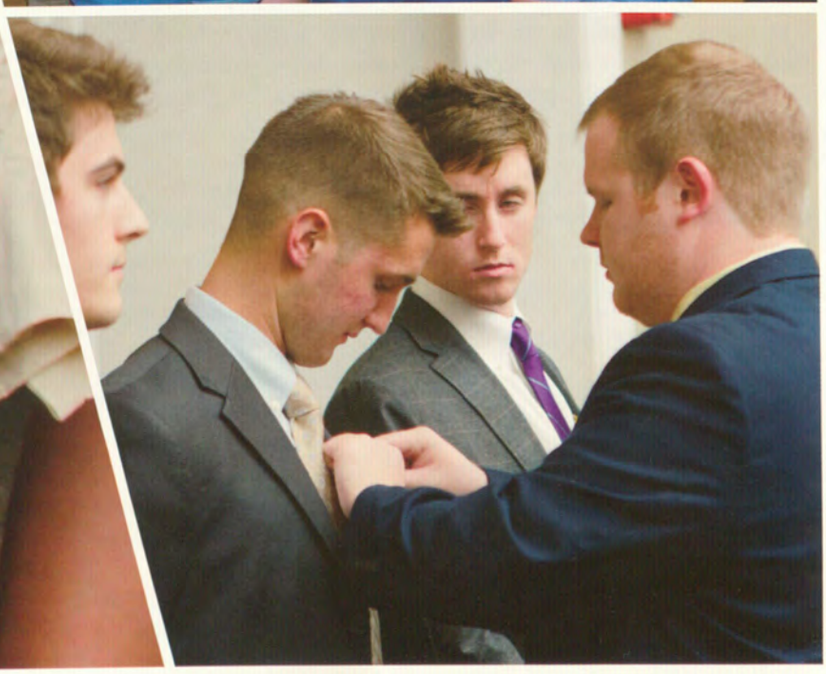


# Greek News

## ATO to receive formal charter

*March 11, 2015*
*Halley Smith*

The brothers of Alpha Tau Omega will receive their formal charter on March 28.

As a colony, ATO has functioned like other Greek organization on campus, but internal elements of ritual and initiation have been absent. With their charter, Samford ATOs will have the same membership rights as ATO's across the country.

For the fraternity, which colonized on March 14, 2014, petitioning for a charter was a 21-page process that including submitting essays, recommendation letters, membership profiles, grade reports and office programs to their headquarters.

Patrick O'Connor, a fifth-year senior education major and past president of ATO, said that the first step to petitioning for a charter was establishing the organization on campus. ATO expansion officers came to Samford and spent time getting to know Samford and its students, and they took interest in those who were looking to make a difference on campus.

"We as founding fathers have been through a lot to get the petition completed and approved by Nationals," O'Connor said. "We're excited for all of our work and ambitions to be realized by the fraternity and to continue bonding together as a brotherhood."

With the charter comes a new level of responsibilities and privileges for the chapter.

"This charter means we will become a functioning chapter with full rights to fraternity ritual and initiation," ATO president William Hargrove said. "Initiating and chartering will bring everything full circle from founding as a colony almost a year ago to becoming a chapter."

Hargrove, a sophomore international relations major, credits ATO's 2014 executive board for their success in receiving their charter so quickly. "Some ATO colonies spend much, much longer in this phase," Hargrove said.

Though it's bittersweet for O'Connor to graduate, he is excited to see what the brothers will do as they become a deeper part of the Samford community.

"I know I speak for all the graduating men when I say that we expect only the best from the future men of ATO," O'Connor said.

## Delta Xi Phi hosts first semi-formal

*May 7, 2015*
*Chelsea Pennington*

On Saturday, May 2, the Samford chapter of multicultural sorority Delta Xi Phi (DXP) held their first-ever semi-formal event at Ruffner Mountain Nature Preserve.

The national sorority was founded in 1994 and has been at Samford since 2012.
Junior history major Nicole Poland, a member since December 2012, helped plan the event.

"As we've gotten more members, this semester we were just for some reason determined to have this semi-formal—to get all dressed up and go out to dinner and have a dance of some sort," Poland said. "It became something that we were really excited to have happen, so we just did it."

Planning for a small group was not without its difficulties. "There are so few of us, and we didn't want this massive space for not that many of us to show up, and there was the question of how many people we were going to have," Poland said.

Junior sociology major and internal vice president Morgan Mitchell recognized that there were advantages to being a smaller sorority as well. "It allowed us to be really inclusive: we wanted to be like, 'This is a formal for everyone that isn't in a big, publicly-funded, publicly-supported, Samford-sponsored sorority.' I think that put us in a really cool position," Mitchell said.

"At one point we had up to about 30 people, which is definitely more than we ever thought would come. It was just really cool that it was free and open to people and we had a lot of supporters," Mitchell said. "Especially for it being our first formal ever, and being such a small sorority and a new sorority, I'd say it was a success."

Junior history major Franklin Lowe attended and enjoyed the event. "The DXP formal was certainly a success in terms of community, frivolity and especially respect," Lowe said.

"Everyone there understood what it meant for a group of women to come together from the Samford student body and promote informed views on feminism, race relations, multiculturalism and sisterhood. For that group and their friends to be able to celebrate each other was a great moment," he said.

# Greek life groups step for unity

*April 16, 2015*
*Asia Burns*

The brothers of the Tau Iota chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. are bringing black and gold to Samford's red and blue as they host their annual Unity Step Show. For the fifth year in a row, the Unity Step Show will gather sororities and fraternities from all councils to participate in an evening of step, dance and chanting Thursday in order to raise proceeds for the March of Dimes.

"We ask all the fraternities and sororities who are interested in participating to come up with a performance consisting of stepping, chants, strolls and dance moves," Jhamall Wright, a junior exercise science major and president of the Alpha Phi Alpha chapter, said. "We are trying to make it bigger and better every year," he said.

Historically, step shows are typically associated with the National Pan-Hellenic Council, a group consisting of the "Divine Nine" sororities and fraternities. Stepping, a form of percussive dance, originated as an African art form where steppers used their bodies to produce rhythms though footsteps and handclaps.

However, the Samford APA's take on step shows turns drastically from the "Divine Nine" tradition. Rather than consisting exclusively of NPHC member organizations, the Unity Step Show invites Panhellenic sororities and Interfraternity Conference fraternities to perform with them.

"Our [step show] is a way for us to bring unity between us and other organizations on campus," APA member and junior exercise science major Cody Brooks said. "We are trying to bridge the gap between different [the organizations]. It isn't one of the most-attended shows, but it is a great tradition that will bring unity to Samford's sororitites and fraternities," Aneesa Anderson, junior psychology major and Alpha Kappa Alpha member, said.

Below: Hannah Giddings welcomed Macy Sarver to Phi Mu on bid day.

Bottom: Disaffiliated Rho Gammas led potential new members through recruitment.

# Recruitment

*Article by Halley Smith, Photos by Emily Ferrara, Kate Sullivan, Maddie Davis and Sara Nolin*

2014 was another record breaking year for Panhellenic Recruitment with more than 370 girls who went through the recruitment process. These women spent four days visiting the five Panhellenic houses on campus and attended open house, philanthropy, theme and preference parties, which ultimately culminated in a huge bid day party on the quad and in each house.

Kendall McPheeters, a senior biology major and the vice president of recruitment, spent most of the year organizing and preparing for the massive event. "It takes communication, sacrifice and selflessness to pull together recruitment," said McPheeters. "I was immensely blessed with a selfless and vivacious team around me that kept me sane, made me laugh and made my job a cake walk."

Sorority recruitment also saw many changes this year. Communication rules between active and potential new members were made more open in an attempt to become more welcoming to new students.

"It was risky, but led to a more normal relationship between those participating in recruitment and those who conducted the week. I wanted to make it as natural as possible," said McPheeters.

In addition, the traditional Thursday-Monday schedule was abandoned in favor of a Wednesday-Sunday schedule, to better accommodate parents, alumni and students. 2014 was also the last recruitment for Greek Life Adviser Denny Bubrig, who moved to Austin, Texas, later that year.

McPheeters believed 2014's recruitment was a success. "The purpose of recruitment is to get a large amount of women plugged into five organizations as quickly and efficiently as possible. Many women found a new organization to pour their time and talents into," McPheeters said. «

# IFC

*Article by Halley Smith, Photos by Stanley Zeng*

The Interfraternal Council (IFC), the governing body for fraternities, had a great year of growth and brotherhood. The council not only saw a record number of men go through fraternity rush but also welcomed a new fraternity and watched them prosper and gain their formal charter.

IFC President Tanner Miles, a junior journalism and mass communication major, said it was a great year for IFC.

"I am extremely proud of the image that IFC has been able to sustain during this year," Miles said. "I truly believe that the chapters here set an excellent example of how all chapters should behave."

Miles helped oversee the successful introduction of Alpha Tau Omega into the fraternity community.

"They have shown great leadership and initiative for multiple issues on campus. They have established their presence on this campus in a short period of time," Miles said.

This year, brothers from each chapter were involved in countless hours of community service, leadership and scholarship, and set an example for chapters across the country.

Brothers took part in pushing for the "It's On Us" campaign to raise awareness of sexual assault on college campuses, raised money through Relay For Life and helped bring back the community-wide Easter egg hunt through West Campus.

Throughout the year, IFC helped inspire men to be better scholars, and as he looks forward to the next year, Miles is confident that there will be more and more students interested in joining Greek Life. «

Top: IFC leadership included James Barker, Tanner Miles and Taylor Chadwell.
Right: ATO leaders are sworn in.

Left: Panhellenic leaders celebrated a successful year at the Greek awards in the spring.

# Panhellenic

*Article by Halley Smith, Photos by Aly Hathcock and Emily Ferrara*

This year, the Panhellenic council went through major changes as it worked for the betterment of the women in Greek life.

The council had one of the most successful recruitment cycles in recent years, with record-breaking numbers of girls going through recruitment in the fall. The council also adopted Sozo Children, a missionary organization dedicated to helping children in need, as its Panhellenic philanthropy, and had several events throughout the semesters to raise money and awareness for Sozo.

In addition to the added changes to Greek life made by the council, the eight women had a larger goal as well: Greek unity. Panhellenic President Savannah Newman, a junior mathematics major, said, "It was crucial that our current houses value, trust and respect each other. I have seen a lot of improvement in this area, and our community has been strengthened significantly this year."

In order to work on building Greek unity, the Council brought back programming for National Eating Disorder Awareness week, and partnered with local counseling services to provide speakers and build awareness about eating disorders. In addition, the Panhellenic council helped embrace the national It's On Us campaign to take a stand against sexual assault. The initiative was supported by the council, several fraternities and SGA.

"We hope that the conversations that were started this year will begin triggering change and intentionality within the community regarding this issue that we refuse to ignore," Newman said.

For senior biology major Kendall McPheeters, the 2014 vice president of recruitment, the most rewarding part of Panhellenic was getting to "strengthen the community of sororities on campus."

"Basically, getting to know the other officers was my favorite part of serving on the council," said McPheeters. "These were women who may not be in my sorority and I may not have met them outside of serving with them, but they became close friends who I will continue to carry with me throughout my life." «

Right: Delta Sigma Theta members strolled in the West Village courtyard.

# NPHC

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Aly Hathcock & Brianna Walker*

The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) served as the coordinating body for historically African-American fraternities and sororities. The NPHC existed to unite the active Samford chapters as one collective voice to speak on issues, coordinate joint programming and create a sense of peer accountability for the chapters. The council was comprised of four officers representing the community and delegates from each active chapter, including Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Kappa Alpha and Delta Sigma Theta.

President and junior exercise science major Jhamall Wright made it his goal to collaborate with other student organizations in hopes of establishing Greek unity. NPHC dedicated time and efforts toward actively participating with other groups on campus through various events.

While the NPHC has historically been an African-American organization, Samford's body did not discriminate against any ethnic group that expressed interest in becoming a part of the organization. Therefore, Samford's NPHC became increasingly diverse in its membership.

The group hosted and supported numerous events at Samford this year.

Sophomore psychology and Spanish double major Alondrea Hubbard, who served as this year's NPHC secretary, said, "The event that continued to gain popularity was the Greek Unity Step Show, which has any fraternity or sorority perform a step or stroll for the audience. In the finale, all the organizations participating come together and perform one unifying step."

The Step Show took place as a part of NPHC week in February. Additionally, the group planned Pie for a Cure, where students could pie sorority and fraternity members to support Breast Cancer Research. In April, the group also performed their annual Stroll on Ben Brown Plaza to promote Greek unity.

NPHC continued to be a force for positive change on Samford's campus, as they promoted "unanimity of thought and action" in the Greek community. «

# Greek Honor Societies

*Article by Elizabeth Mullins, Photos by Sara Nolin*

Amidst all the accolades and honor-based organizations on campus, Gamma Sigma Alpha (GSA) and the Order of Omega sought to recognize the best of the best in the Greek community. Both organizations did so by acknowledging students who distinguished themselves on campus and within their Greek societies.

"Gamma Sigma Alpha is a Greek honor fraternity for students who have demonstrated exceptional academic achievement," chair of GSA and junior human development and family science major Lauren Oden said.

To qualify for membership in GSA, students must have been academically classified as either a junior or a senior, have a grade point average higher than 3.5 and involved with a Greek organization on campus.

Order of Omega, another honor society that focused on recognizing students who were involved in Greek life, took special care to honor those who served in leadership positions, whether within sororities or fraternities or in other organizations and clubs.

"Order of Omega is a national Greek leadership honor society that recognizes Greek leaders based on leadership within chapters and on campus, and we also look at achievements in the classroom," explained Trey Ingram, a senior biology major, who served as president of Order of Omega.

To maintain its prestige, Order of Omega only invited a few people from each chapter per selection cycle, and these membership selections were made through an internal nomination process instead of a typical application procedure.

Both GSA and Order of Omega were involved in promoting inter-organizational community on campus. The honor societies helped to encourage camaraderie and Greek unity by facilitating events like their annual Greek Week and the Greek Awards.

"Since most members are highly involved in their organizations, we focus on pursuing Greek unity with our yearly Greek Week, which we hold during the spring," Order of Omega secretary-treasurer and first year pharmacy student, Caitlin Campbell said.

The students involved with both GSA and Order of Omega remained active all over campus, serving in leadership positions in their fraternities and sororities as well as other on-campus groups. They provided strong representation for Greek life in a variety of other organizations, from student government to departmental honor societies and more. «

The office of Greek Life hosted initiation ceremonies for both honor societies.

# Alpha Delta Pi

*Article by Katie Matuska, Photos by Kate Sullivan and Morgan Roettele*

The Kappa chapter of Alpha Delta Pi was a diverse group of women who valued sisterhood and philanthropy. ADPi's national philanthropy was the Ronald McDonald House (RMH).

"ADPi is great about thinking of fun ways to raise money and awareness for the Ronald McDonald House and we have had the pleasure of having a RMH right here in Birmingham," junior journalism and mass communication major and vice president Paige Shelby said.

The sisterhood organized two annual philanthropy events, the Lion's Share Challenge golf tournament and Run for Ronald. They had the privilege of volunteering regularly at RMH due to its proximity to campus.

"Serving with my sisters in our annual philanthropy events has been an incredible opportunity to unite as a chapter to make a difference on a large scale," said junior interior architecture major and president Molly McCoy. "Whether it's BINGO with the families or making crafts for the kids, seeing our chapter rally together behind a common goal is really inspiring.

Tradition and sisterhood were a huge part of Alpha Delta Pi. The chapter organized various events from special functions to the annual Thanksgiving dinner.

"My favorite event that ADPi holds is our annual Thanksgiving dinner that we have in the chapter room," Shelby said. "Everyone comes into the chapter room in comfy clothes awaiting the yummy Thanksgiving dinner the parent association puts together. It is such a great time for unity community and good food."

ADPi's open motto, "We live for each other," was something the Kappa chapter strove to encompass each day.

"As a new member, I was overwhelmed by how nice and caring the girls are," sophomore exercise science major and finance assistant Brooke Hogoboom said. "Alpha Delta Pi has helped be grow personally, relationally and spiritually." «

Above: Caitlin Campbell and Kate Sullivan at bid day 2014.
Left: Sisters participated in theme night during recruitment.

# Alpha Omicron Pi

*Article by Olivia Williams, Photos by Paige Van de Vuurst*

The women of Alpha Omicron Pi exceeded their expectations in more ways than one. In its 20th year on campus, the sorority moved into a new house that could accommodate more of its members, had another record breaking recruitment and continued its philanthropic work with the Arthritis Foundation.

"In the past year we were finally able to move to a facility that was large enough to accommodate our current members and allow us to grow more with the recruitment process," AOII president Rebecca Jackson said.

AOII is home to 139 members, and up until this year they were not able to conduct chapter in their house due to space limitations. "We're currently able to meet in our house every week," Jackson, a junior nursing major, said.

The move to a larger house was welcome progress for the members, many of whom felt fenced in by the smaller facilities.

AOII hosted their annual Smoke Out Arthritis cookout and Strike Out Arthritis baseball game to raise money for their philanthropy. Maggie Daseler, philanthropy chair of the sorority and junior pharmacy major, said, "I really love our philanthropy because I feel like arthritis is somewhat of an overlooked cause."

Smoke Out Arthritis took place on Oct. 8, and sisters sold tickets to raise money. "I really love Smoke Out. We sell barbeque sandwiches on Ben Brown and all of the money that we raise goes to the Arthritis Foundation," Daseler said.

The sisters also took advantage of Samford's talented baseball team and hosted their signature fundraiser, Strike Out Arthritis, on campus to engage more of the student body on April 11.

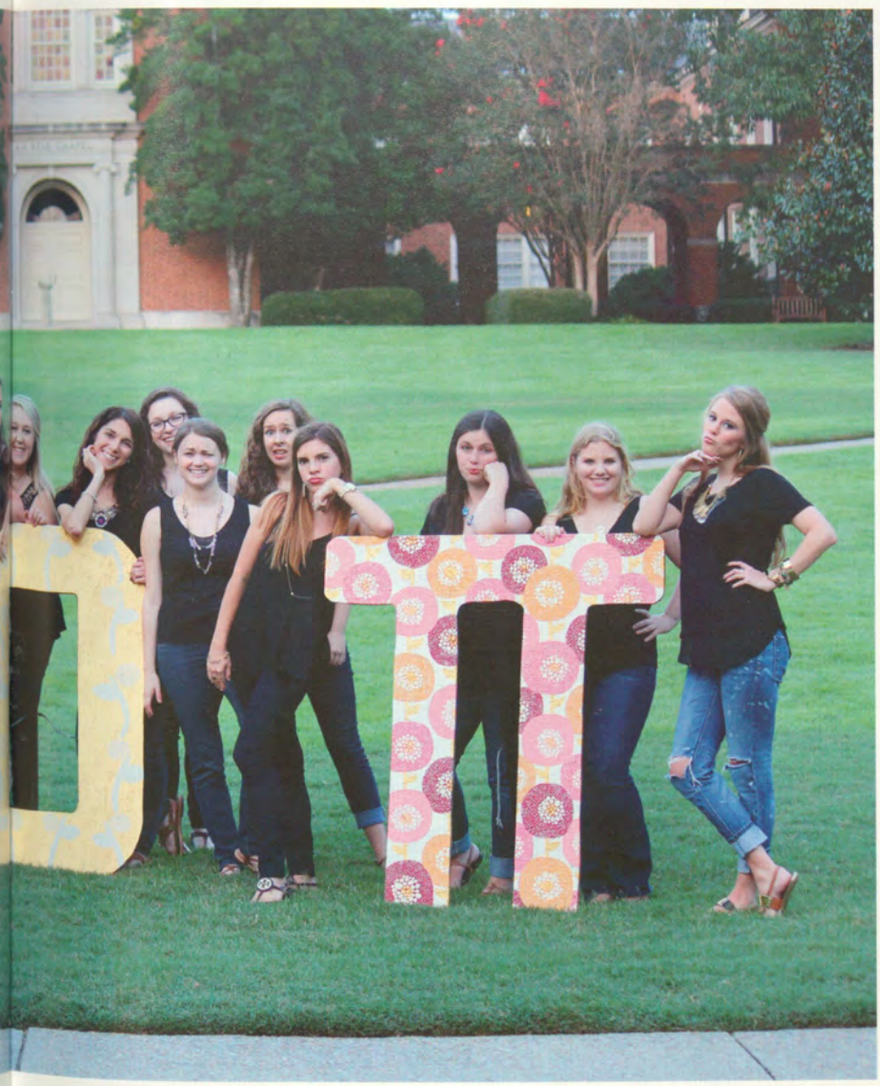
"It's a good sisterhood bonding experience where we're supporting the baseball team and the fight against arthritis," Daseler said.

In the spirit of charity, AOII continued their multi-year winning streak of the Philanthropy award at Step Sing. The sisters raised $2,925 for the Morningstar Foundation, more than 20 percent of the total money raised by the 15 participating groups.

In addition to their philanthropic contributions, the sisters had several social events as well. Their Nov. 8 formal was held at the beautiful Barn at Shady Lane and provided lasting memories for the sisters. They also held mixers with different fraternities on campus and several date parties around Birmingham.

The 2014-2015 year was a time of transition, service and fun. "As for the next few years we just hope to see Rho Delta grow and continue to add more outstanding women like we had this past year and in years before," Jackson said. "The environment truly feels like a home." «

Right: Seniors Halley Smith and Casey Bell at AOII 's new house dedication.



Above: Cassandra Watkins and Elyse Raveill at the sisters' "draft" themed Bid Day.

Below: Anna Grace Rutledge, Merrell McQueen
Right: Senior Chi Omega sisters before preference night of recruitment.

Above: Sisters posed on the Quad for recruitment pictures.

# Chi Omega

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Emily Ferrara and Jenna Adams*

Some would describe the sisters of the Chi Omega Zeta Zeta chapter at Samford as "limitless." Caroline Novkov, a junior accounting major said there "was not a more accurate word to describe this wonderful group of women. This organization has a way of encouraging and supporting every single one of us to do whatever we want and to excel at each opportunity we encounter, while providing support and encouragement every step of the way."

Merrell McQueen, a junior art major, agreed with Novkov as she reflected on the way Chi Omega has impacted her this year. She is confident that all of these experiences in Chi Omega have prepared her life beyond college.

Likewise, Harper Parkey, a senior education major said she "never imagined leading a group of 200 women." Yet, she did just that "with the constant support of these sisters, who granted unmatched leadership opportunities and encouragement."

As leaders, the women of Chi O sought to make a difference on campus and in the community by serving the national philanthropy, Make-A-Wish and their local philanthropy, YWCA. Prom Palooza was an event put on annually by the YWCA that Chi O partners with to help high school girls purchase prom dresses at an affordable price. McQueen said this was her favorite event, because "we got to see girls glow with confidence and excitement as they try on their dream dresses, but then their dream becomes reality. I love that Chi Omega got to help girls see their natural beauty."

In addition to service, the chapter also united for other events. Maddie Davis, a senior journalism and mass communication major, said, "Bid Day is my favorite event each year. I love the energy and the sheer joy. I love seeing the anxious faces and jittery hands opening their cards." Parkey said "Sharing Father-Daughter Weekend with all the dads was extremely special."

Whether they were practicing for Step Sing, playing intramurals or dancing at pledge bash, the women of Chi Omega cherished the opportunities to deepen their bonds this school year. «

Above: Dori Burnett runs back to her sisters after being disaffiliated during recruitment.
Left: Jessie Long, Allison Hall, and Christi Harrison at Chi Omega's formal recruitment.

Right: Mackenzie Davis welcomes new members on Bid Day.

# Phi Mu

*Article by Kristen Jackson, Photos by Emily Sarver and Scottie Lenning*

The Alpha Gamma chapter of Phi Mu Fraternity served as home for many women at Samford. The organization was founded on the principles of love, honor and truth, and encouraged its members to value and live by its Biblical foundation.

"I have enjoyed sharing my Samford experience with sisters who encourage me to be my best self. These are friendships I know will last a lifetime," freshman exercise science major Alyssa Lane said.

Through many philanthropic activities and fundraisers, Phi Mu continued to support Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Their annual fundraisers included the 5k Miracle Run at Homewood Park, Car Wash, Wagon Wash and Silent Auction.

"Our support to CMNH has been a vital part of this chapter and our sisterhood because we had the opportunity to go and serve at Children's of Alabama and be hands on with the same patients we are financially supporting," said junior early childhood education major and philanthropy chair Mary Gaither.

Sisters valued time spent with each other at a variety of events, whether it was a '50s "Grease" movie night or dancing the night away at Semi-Sweet formal at the Summit Club and the Take to the Skies formal at the Southern Museum of Flight. In-house events included Zumba nights, Bible studies, ATO Game Night and an alumnae tea party.

"Bid Bash has been my favorite social event this year," sophomore early childhood education major Emily Trucks said. "The theme was the 1950s so everyone dressed up as characters from 'Grease.' It was a fun night and a great event to bring the chapter together for the first time with our new pledge class."

Through recruitment, social events and serving the greater community, this vibrant sisterhood provided its members with a college experience enriched with laughter, personal growth and memories to last a lifetime. «

Left page: Seniors before the sorority's spring formal.
Left: Rachael Headley and Amy Small at Phi Mu's "Catching the Phinest" bid day.

# Zeta Tau Alpha

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Riana Lonquist and Emily Ferrara*

The Delta Psi chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha at Samford University led with loyalty, shared the bond of sisterhood and sought to serve both the campus and community. Sydnee Wisler, chapter president and junior journalism and mass communication major said, "Zeta is far more than the letters we wear or the events we participate in. The members of this chapter are what make it so special and such a pleasure to lead."

The sisterhood committee discovered new and fun activities to bring the members of Zeta together, as they participated in football tailgates, Sisterhood Week, ice skating, a Pure Barre class and other events.

The chapter also hosted several social events, including a fall party, semi-formal, formal and mixers.

Nathalie Roeling, senior architecture major and former Zeta president, said "I hope the bond the chapter shares aids in making Samford a place of community."

Not only did the women of Zeta devote time to forming bonds with one another, but they also prioritized serving others. They participated in activities such as Samford Gives Back and Relay for Life, and they hosted Think Pink fundraisers and events.

Think Pink, which took place in October, promoted Zeta's national philanthropy, Breast Cancer Awareness and Education. During this month, the members could be found selling a variety of pink goodies in Ben Brown, passing out awareness ribbons, holding a penny war and even dying Ben Brown fountain pink.

In the spring, Delta Psi hosted one of the biggest Greek fundraisers of the year, Mr. Samford, during which the women nominated a few eligible bachelors to compete for the title through several rounds of pageant categories, such as talent, interview, formal wear and swimwear.

Senior journalism and mass communication major and former Panhellenic President Julianna Hallman said she found lifelong friendships through involvement in Zeta.

"I love that I have sisters that will cook bacon and eggs and drink coffee with me in the mornings and will pour into me spiritually," Hallman said.

"Zeta Tau Alpha is a place full of women who love each other no matter the things that happen over our years at Samford or in our past. It is a group of women who constantly seek the Lord and for that, I am thankful." «

Above: Sisters competed in intramurals throughout the year.
Right: Abbi Hope, Rebecca Terrell and Lizzie Kolakoski participated in Step Sing together.

Left: Meriwether Burrell and Alyssa Stockard attended a ZTA tailgate before a football game.
Below: Sisters celebrated their "New Bids on the Block" during bid day.

Below: Sisters participated in a Step Show at Samford's intramural complex.

# Alpha Kappa Alpha

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Aly Hathcock, Emily Ferrara and Brianna Walker*

The Omicron Mu chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated (AKA) expanded their chapter and showed their commitment to campus and community.

In the fall, seven new members joined Alpha Kappa Alpha, one of the largest groups of initiates in recent years. New member and junior journalism and mass communication major Yvonne Gross said, "Joining the Omircon Mu chapter was one of the best things I have done in my college career."

AKA's president, Ivy Williams, a junior business major, said "The sisterhood reaches far beyond just the college years, but all across the world and throughout the lifetime."

AKA added new events in addition to continuing their annual traditions. The chapter hosted a Women's Appreciation Program in the spring, an event to honor several women who were an integral part of Samford's community. The women partnered with Samford Earth Day and asked students to sign a petition to bring more recycling bins to campus. AKA also provided many financial awareness events, such as the Mo' Money Mo' Problems seminar and Monopoly Night "Budgeting Practice." The women also helped sponsor the Nafifa Dance Company to teach African Dance on campus.

Omicron Mu continued to support to their philanthropy, Sickle Cell Corporation. The women hosted "The Invasion of Pink" week to raise funds and awareness. In April, AKA participated in the annual Crop Hunger Walk for Sickle Cell. The chapter also hosted their annual Pink Goes Red for a Day in partnership with the American Heart Association. In the fall, the Omicron Mu chapter also presented "Strut for a Cure," a breast cancer fundraising and awareness event.

"I love my sisters," Gross said. "There's nothing I wouldn't do for them, and there is nothing they wouldn't do for me. That's sisterhood. That's love. That's what our sorority is all about." «

Above: Members of AKA posed together outside Hodges Chapel.

# Delta Sigma Theta

*Article by Melanie Pippen, Photos by Sara Nolin and Aly Hathcock*

The Sigma Eta chapter of Delta Sigma Theta has a long-standing history of service and friendship that made a positive impact on students across campus.

"Though Delta Sigma Theta is a historically African American organization, I am proud to say I am a member of this illustrious sorority as a Hispanic," said Melody Martinez, a senior human development and family life education major and the financial secretary of Sigma Eta.

The Jabberwock, a talent show in which students sang, danced and performed comedy, was held to raise funds for the Tiffany Nicole Conaway memorial scholarship.

The chapter also hosted other annual events such as Dance Away Diabetes, National Wear Red Day and Letters to Our Troops in an effort to support not only the Samford community but the welfare of the country.

"Being a member of the Sigma Eta chapter has taught me about leadership, networking, time management, dedication and most importantly sisterhood," Kyndall Moorman-Key, senior biology major and vice president of NPHC and Sigma Eta, said.

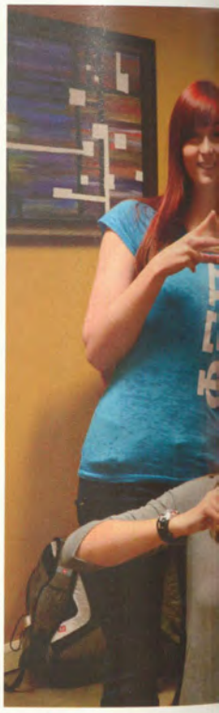
The chapter participated in numerous community service projects such as Alumnae/Collegiate Service Day, Race for the Cure, Boo at the Zoo and the Community Food Bank of Central Alabama. "I am truly thankful for each opportunity we have to serve and use our talents to be a blessing to the community," said first year pharmacy student and corresponding secretary of Sigma Eta Paige Moore. «

Right: Sisters of Delta Sigma Theta organized a blood drive fundraiser.

Left and below: Delta Sigma Theta hosted a Step Show in the West Village courtyard.

# Delta Xi Pi

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Emily Ferrara and Aly Hathcock*



The Delta Xi Phi multicultural sorority at Samford stands to promote friendship, sisterhood, the advancement of women through higher education, multicultural awareness and community service. While still a young group, the group's strong foundation made it a force of change and positivity on campus.

Savannah Weatherell, a member-at-large and active alumna in the chapter, said, "I was refreshed to work around other individuals who strive so earnestly to connect with the outside world."

"This sisterhood has made such a difference to my Samford experience because I have been able to spend so much time with people who share my values and ideals," Katie Laury, junior business major, said. "I look forward to continuing to raise awareness about diversity and the advancement of women."

Likewise, Nicole Poland, a junior history major said the most meaningful part of her three-year involvement in Delta Xi Phi has been "being surrounded by strong women who strive to promote their shared passions."

In the spring, the chapter hosted a retreat in Chattanooga as a way to provide leadership training and bonding experiences within the sisterhood. They also participated in the Greek Unity Step Show in the spring, hosted by Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, to build friendships within the Greek community. In addition to these experiences, Delta Xi Phi fulfilled its mission of increasing multicultural awareness through various other events and film screenings. As Kelsey Hall, fourth-year pharmacy student said, "We are always looking for new ways to bring culture to Samford. We see it as our job to bring awareness to issues and people groups that may be otherwise overlooked." Hall helped found Samford's chapter of Delta Xi Phi.

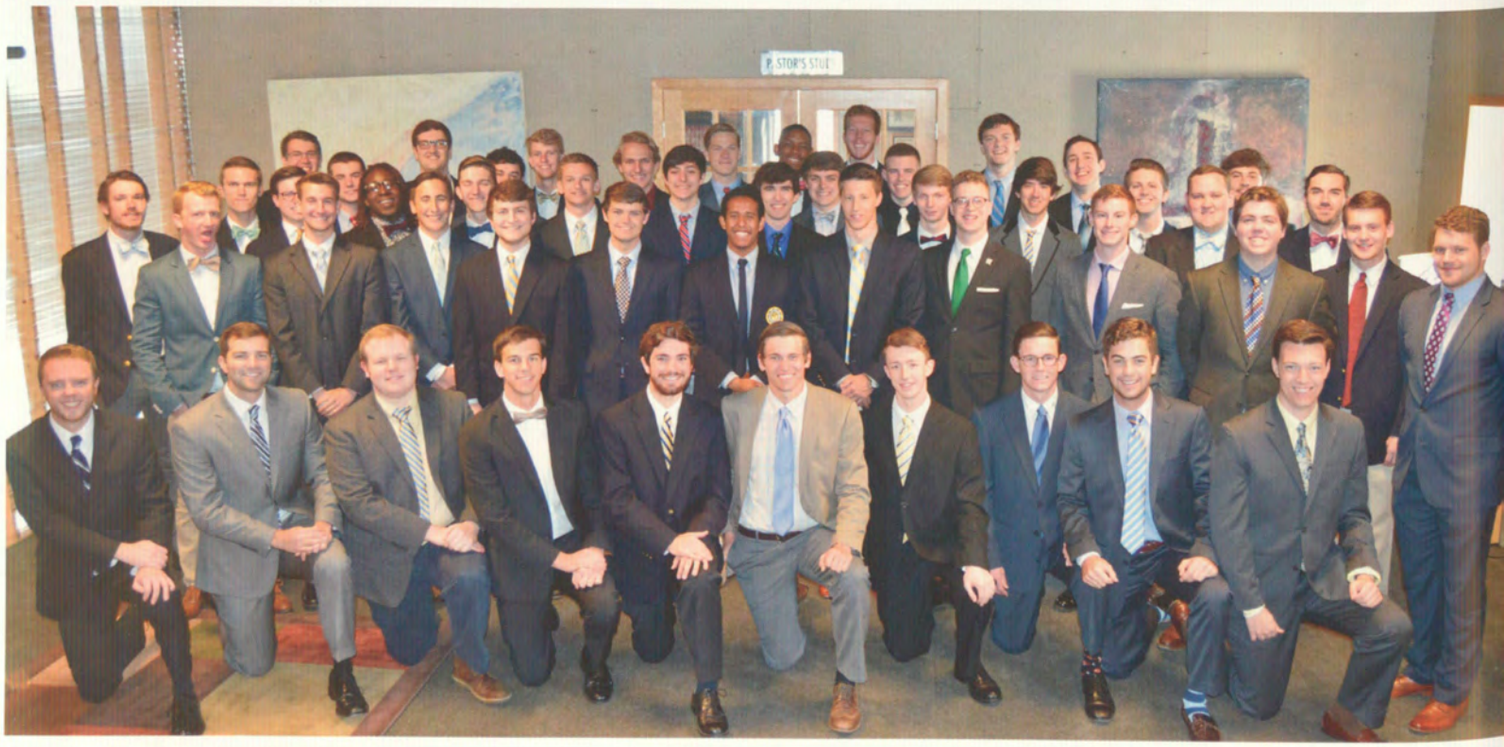
The future of this chapter is bright as they continue to grow their own understanding of cultural issues, as well as Samford's awareness as a whole. «

Above: Natalie Bennie, Marley Davis
Right: Members of Delta Xi Phi painted faces during Samford's Alumni Easter Egg Hunt.

Left: Members of Delta Xi Phi met in Reid Commons.
Below: Morgan Mitchell, Natalie Bennie and Kate Laury volunteered together.

Above: Natalie Bennie and Nicole Poland during a Delta Xi Phi meeting.

Below: Barlow Marriott and Chase Cunningham
Right: New officers were sworn in.



# Alpha Tau Omega

*Article by Katie Matuska, Photos by Tate Holcombe and Bailey Fuqua*

The newest fraternity on campus was Alpha Tau Omega. The brotherhood received their formal charter on March 28, 2015.

"It has been such a blessing. I was so impressed with all of the hard work that everyone put into the petition to make it a success," senior elementary education major and former president Patrick O'Connor said. "We are all incredibly excited to have the charter in our hands in just over a year."

The brotherhood looked forward to participating in formal recruitment and learning the fraternity's official rituals and traditions. ATO wanted to enhance Greek life and the university as a whole.

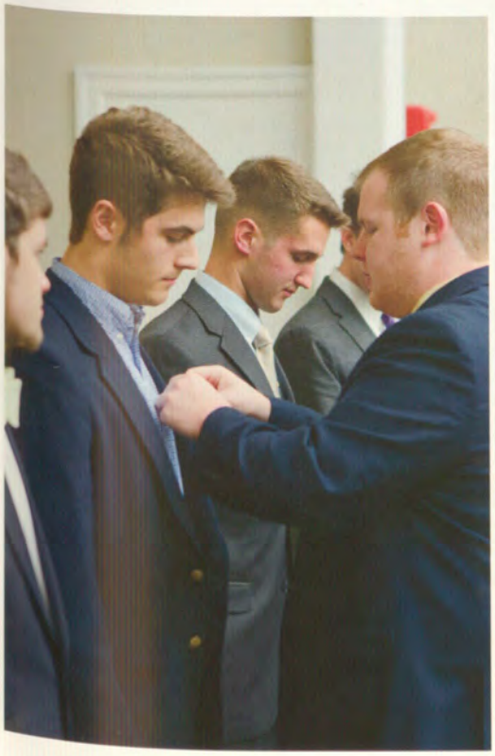
"I joined ATO because I knew that it would yield leadership opportunities that I would not be able to find anywhere else on campus and because I saw an area where I could really make a difference on campus," sophomore international relations and economics major and president William Hargrove said.

ATO performed in their first ever Step Sing show in the spring semester. The organization won the award for "Best Moment" for the surprise kiss during their final performance.

"We talked about the kiss all week leading up to Saturday night. I had been offered money, gifts and bribes if I did it," O'Connor said. "We kissed, and I will never forget my last Step Sing performance. What a memory to have."

The brothers of Alpha Tau Omega were eager to find their role on Samford's campus and looked forward to welcoming more brothers in the future.

"We bound a bunch of men together who otherwise would not necessarily be friends or even have met to form a brotherhood based on Christian principles, which has been great for the Samford community," sophomore exercise science major and signature event co-chair Stewart Butler said. "Our bond is strong." «



Right: The chapter participated in a Habitat for Humanity project.
Below: Several members traveled to Arizona for the fraternity's National General Assembly.

Above: Brothers tailgated on the quad before a football game.

# Lambda Chi Alpha

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Jordan Vallas*

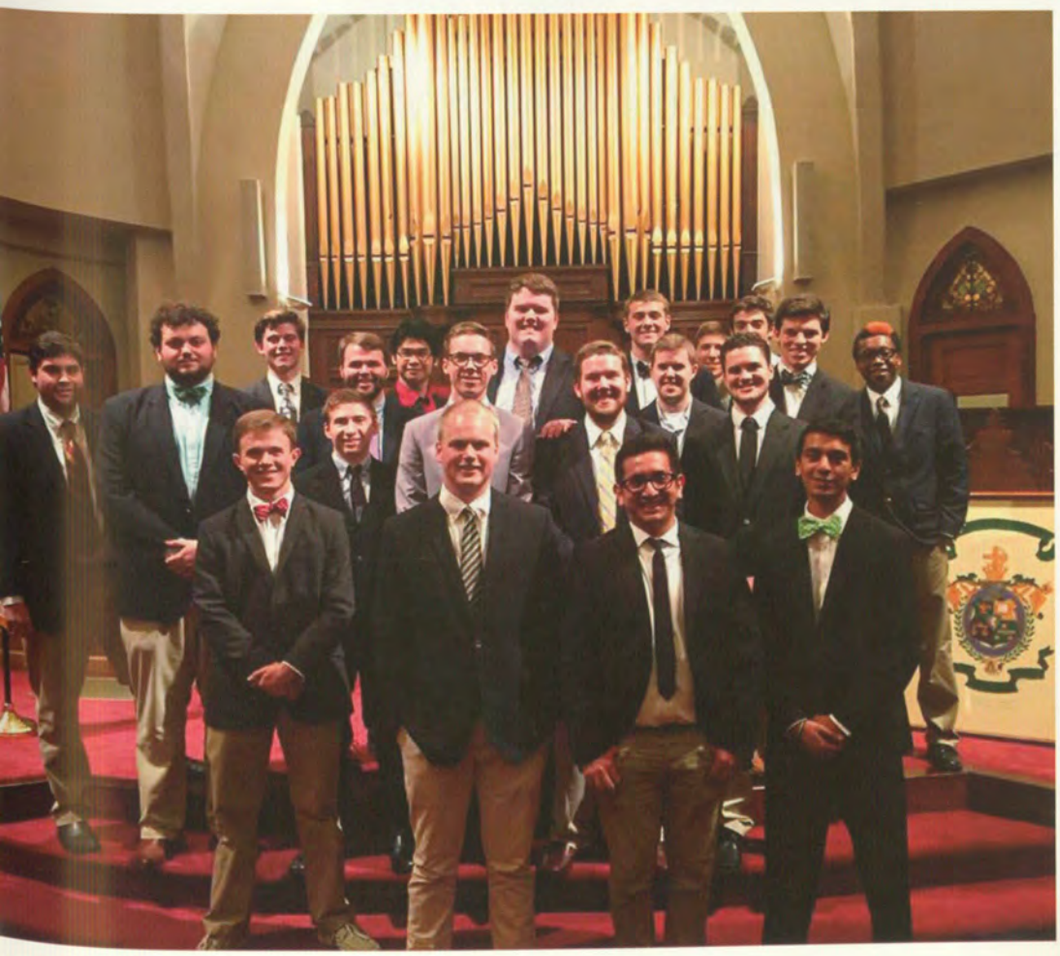
The Theta Alpha Zeta chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha at Samford University has both a rich history and an ambitious future. Being a part of this chapter meant being a part of something bigger than the individual. Lambda Chi is a fraternity with local, national and international influence, with brothers all over the world promoting its core ideals.

The brothers of Lambda Chi valued strong bonds and utilized social programs as a way to foster brotherhood. The chapter hosted events such as a movie night, pizza social, a free hot chocolate giveaway in Ben Brown and many tailgates with the hard work of social chair Fadi Albakri, a senior psychology major.

This year, the chapter hosted their formal at The Club in Birmingham. "It was a spectacular spot for a great night for all the guys," Jordan Vallas, a sophomore computer science major, said. Annual events were highlights of the year for the brothers. "The football tailgates and our formal have been some of the best times of my entire life. The chapter is blessed to have really active brothers and alumni who pull together to make these occasions possible," Vallas said.

The fraternity's food drive linked all chapters of Lambda Chi Alpha through philanthropy. Theta Alpha Zeta's annual volleyball tournament, Watermelon Festival and various partnerships benefited this national effort on a local level through the Salvation Army Food Bank. Tom Dechant, a junior nursing major and this year's philanthropy chair, brought about many positive changes to the chapter's involvement with the local Salvation Army.

Academics, social programs and community service were foundational components of Lambda Chi, but brotherhood made the members' time in the chapter so influential. Grant Barry, a senior sports medicine major said, "I have made lifelong friends and gained experiences I would have never received anywhere else. It is my hope that this chapter only continues to grow and more lives are improved as a result because that is our core goal as a fraternity." «



Left: Associate Ceremony Spring 2015. Three men joined the fraternity: Luke Lay, Nisu Patel and Nathan Yoguez.

# Pi Kappa Phi

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Emily Ferrara and Cameron Gonzalez*

The brothers of Pi Kappa Phi Alpha Eta chapter continued to fulfill their mission of creating an uncommon and lifelong brotherhood that develops leaders and encourages service to others. Cameron Gonzalez, a sophomore business major said, "Pi Kapp has given me community and friendships far deeper and stronger than any I have ever had before. The fraternity experience has challenged me and I have seen daily growth because of our brotherhood and the people that surround me."

A large part of building strong relationships centered on the events the fraternity hosted. Pi Kapp hosted their third-annual Founders Day ball, a formal alumni event, which not only promoted the fraternity amongst active and inactive members but also fostered fundraising for the chapter. Current president and junior business major David McTier said, "This night was a celebration of the success that the chapter has experienced since it was chartered in 1925 as a part of the Howard College."

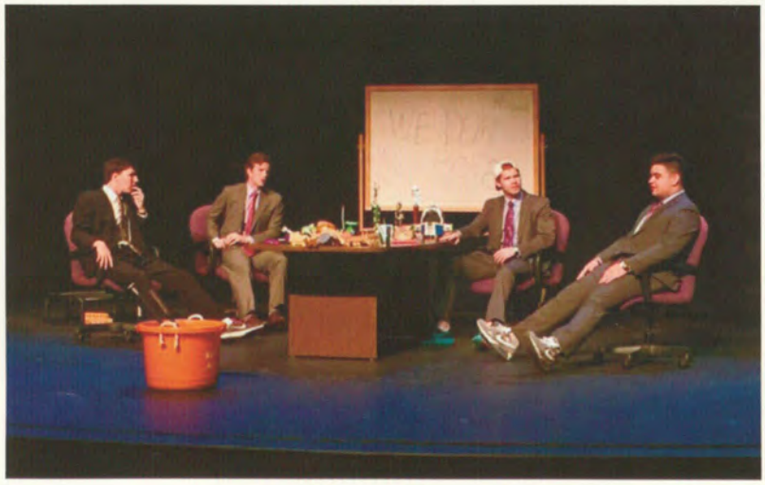
The chapter also hosted various parties, including their annual Halloween and Christmas parties, as well as a Glow Party. In the spring, the brothers donned flannel and cowboy boots for their Barn Bash function.

As reigning Step Sing champions, the directors of Pi Kapp's 2015 Step Sing show spent countless hours preparing to bring Samford another amazing performance. John Hunsicker, Cameron Gonzalez and Carson Kennedy did just that, as the janitors of Pi Kappa Phi took first-runner up with their show "Trashin' the Camp."

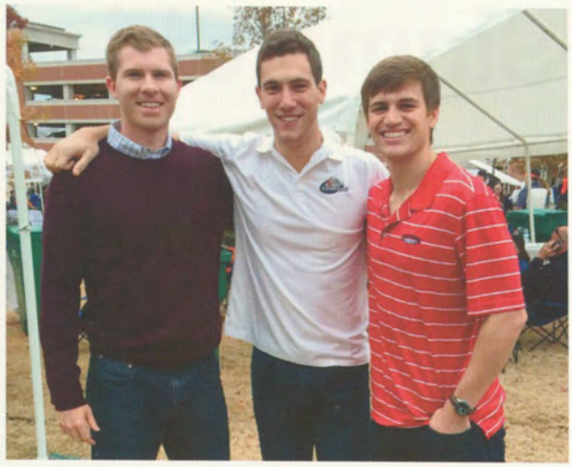
Philanthropy has continuously been a foundational value of Pi Kapp, with their largest amount of support being dedicated to Diversability, a student organization at Samford that works to make the campus a more accessible place for students in wheelchairs. "It is rewarding to see the different that supporting this cause makes, as ramps and automatic door openers become more prevalent across campus," McTier said.

War of the Roses was one of the annual fundraising efforts the fraternity hosts to support Diversability. Clay Hubbard, a senior business major, spearheaded the week of events this year, which included t-shirt sales, penny wars and a date auction.

The brothers of the Alpha Eta chapter had another well-rounded school year as they gave back to Samford and the community and deepened the bond of brotherhood they shared. «



Above: Brothers attended a spring formal together.
Right: Several members of the fraternity acted in a School of the Arts play.



Above: Clark Mattison, David McTier, Matt Bontrager and Austin Person welcome a new class of members to the chapter.

# Sigma Chi

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Riana Lonquist and Emily Ferrara*

The Sigma Chi Pi chapter had another notable year furthering their core values of friendship, justice and learning. At the beginning of the school year, the brotherhood was relocated to a new house in West Campus. Cole Moffett, a junior accounting major, said, "Renovation of the new house has formed many bonds throughout the chapter."

"These bonds were what many brothers consider to be one of the defining aspects of the overall Samford experience," said president and junior biology major Steven Givhan. "This chapter promotes an atmosphere of intellectual, emotional and spiritual accountability for each member."

Arguably the most notable accomplishment of the Pi chapter was taking home the Step Sing Sweepstakes trophy. The show, "Alley Cats," also received all three judges' awards for excellence in music, choreography and creativity, as well as the participants' choice award. Chriss Colee, a sophomore chemistry major, Steadman Bethea, a sophomore human development and family science major and Richard Barnes, a sophomore pre-business major were the directors of this year's winning show.

The fraternity also had a vibrant social calendar, complete with many parties, such as their annual Toga Party, Christmas Party and various date parties. They also hosted their Semi-Formal in the fall at Barber Motorsports Museum in Leeds, Alabama. In the spring, they ventured to Alley Station in Montgomery for their Formal.

In February, the brothers helped the organization Share America's Marrow (SAM) host a bone marrow donor database registry event on campus, which resulted in 81 people registering. "It was great to see different members from Samford Greek Life rally together for such a worthy cause," Moffett said. In addition to this, their main annual philanthropic events took place during Derby Days, a week of fun culminating in a concert, with all proceeds benefiting the Huntsman Cancer Institute.

Michael Enger, a senior accounting major, said, "I entered college wanting to grow as a leader on campus, to make lifelong friends and most importantly to become a better man. I am proud to say that I found that opportunity for growth in Sigma Chi." «

Left: Members of Sigma Chi's fall pledge class walked onto the quad together.
Below: Sigma Chi celebrated a Step Sing Sweepstakes victory.

# Sigma Nu

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Anna Palmer*

The Iota chapter of Sigma Nu, the longest-standing chapter in the nation, continued to promote the fraternity's vision of excelling with honor. Their dedication to athletics, academics, campus involvement, philanthropy and brotherhood were important aspects of this chapter.

Sigma Nu president Matt Carrick, a senior accounting major, said, "The big night of our rush is always Fight Night. We rent a blow up bounce house and big boxing gloves, and have a great night eating Moe's BBQ and fighting." The brotherhood welcomed a new member pledge class of 22 after formal rush.

The brothers celebrated by hosting their annual pledge bash party, White Trash Bash, on Oct. 18, complete with a bonfire and live music. Taylor Chadwell, a junior accounting major, said "White Trash Bash is always a great time, because it's the first chance the brothers get to hang out with our new freshmen."

In addition to these events, the fraternity hosted their annual Car Smash, Halloween Party, Thanksgiving Dinner and Classy Christmas Party. In the spring, the fraternity hosted their annual White Rose Ball and their first annual Woodstock party.

The Iota Chapter also maintained its commitment to service as the brothers supported St. Jude Children's Hospital, several Habitat for Humanity builds and Relay for Life. They also continued their annual 1K and collected canned goods by charging a canned food admission fee at the Woodstock party.

Intramurals continued to be an important part of Sigma Nu. The brothers won the A-league basketball championship for the fourth year in a row, as well as the football A-league championship. The chapter also supported Samford athletics and had brothers on the football, basketball, baseball and track teams. Carrick said, "We pride ourselves on being the loudest and biggest supporters at sporting events because we know how much time the athletes put into their sport, and we support them the whole game."

The brothers of Sigma Nu looked forward to developing leaders, fostering personal growth and perpetuating lifelong friendships in years to come. «

Above: Brothers hosted their annual Car Smash in the fall.
Right: Sigma Nu welcomed a new member pledge class of 22 men.

Left: The brothers of Sigma Nu celebrated winning the A-league basketball championship for the fourth year in a row.

# Alpha Phi Alpha

*Article by Jhamall Wright, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

The Tau Iota Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. prioritized manly deeds, scholarship and love for all mankind. Alpha Phi Alpha served the community in a variety of ways.

"It's not what Alpha or the fraternity can do for us, but what can we do for others in the community," chairman of membership intake and junior exercise science major Cody Brooks said.

The fraternity worked to raise awareness for their national philanthropy, March of Dimes. March of Dimes was designed to educate the public about premature birth. Alpha Phi Alpha participated in "Chill with the Alphas," where they were able to help raise over $200 towards their philanthropy by selling frozen treats. The fraternity also hosted "The Black Carpet Affair," a fashion show for members of the Samford community to strut for a cure.

The Tau Iota chapter also showcased one of their biggest events for March of Dimes, the annual Unity Step Show. Gavin Sinclair, a junior computer science major and member of the chapter, said a goal of the event was to "reach out to other organizations and build interfraternal relations with one another." The chapter made it a priority to build unity on campus and encouraged others to do the same.

The chapter also participated in Samford Gives Back, the Adopt-A-Mile program and a step show at Birmingham Southern to step for a cause and raise money for their philanthropy.

"It's not only important for kids to complete and graduate from high school, but also to continue their pursuit of knowledge after high school," said senior computer science major Kyle Champion, assistant chairman of membership intake.

Through their "Go to High School, Go to College" initiative, Alpha Phi Alpha participated in Blueprints, partnering with Ramsey High School to educate high school students on how to apply for college. The program was a six-week commitment for freshmen through seniors.

Jalen Spraggins, junior accounting major and vice-president of the Tau Iota chapter, formed lifetime relationships with his fraternity brothers.

"Every day we continue to develop leaders and promote brotherhood throughout the campus of Samford," Spraggins said. «

Members of the fraternity participated in a stroll-off and cookout at the intramural fields.

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# Organizations

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# Organizations News

## TEDx events to be hosted

*October 18, 2014*
*Megan Light*

TEDxSamfordU plans to take the campus by storm this year with bigger and better events as it restarts on Samford's campus.

TED (Technology, Entertainment and Design) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan foundation that aims to share innovative and thought-provoking ideas in the form of short talks.

The TED Talks series started as an audio and video podcast series in June 2006 and grew popular after reaching more than a million hits within a year.

The TEDx program allows for communities, organizations and individuals to host their own TED events, featuring screenings of TED Talks, live presenters or both.

TEDx campus coordinator and junior journalism and mass communication major Aly Hathcock said the leadership team has started planning its first event, but is waiting on funding from SGA to set a date.

Hathcock said that while she cannot reveal the official theme until she receives official approval from TED, she said the team is looking to "break free" from traditional topics.

The leadership team wants to cover ideas that will make an impact on the lives of Samford students and take them out of their comfort zone.

"TED Talks are such a great way to further people's knowledge in areas where they may not otherwise have any experience and I'm looking forward to being able to expand others' understanding into new areas," freshman engineering physics major and TEDxSamfordU leadership team member Jack Kawell said.

In the past TEDxSamfordU has hosted speakers including professors Jennifer Speights-Binet of the geography department and Dennis Sansom of the philosophy department.

Faculty advisor for TEDxSamfordU Bryan Johnson said the group hopes to have non-Samford speakers and have Birmingham community members attend the events.

Hathcock said that the group is planning to have giveaways during Homecoming week. Follow @TEDxSamfordU to get more information.

## Sons of Light scavenger hunt begins

*April 29, 2015*
*Chelsea Pennington*

The mysterious Sons of Light Twitter account, which had been silent since the end of the 2014 scavenger hunt on April 18, set the Samford community abuzz on April 1 when it tweeted the website for a countdown to their next activity. That countdown ended Sunday night at midnight, revealing the first clue to the scavenger hunt and sending a group of about 30 students to scour Centennial Walk for the password to find out the next clue.

After wandering around for about half an hour, a cloaked Sons of Light (SoL) member with an unmasked assistant arrived around 12:30 a.m. The crowd of students quickly followed them as they made their way to the top of the stairs.

The SoL member remained silent, but his unnamed assistant chatted with students as he pulled out a role of painter's tape and the two began to put down long pieces along the steps. When asked if he went to Samford, he merely replied, "Well, I used to."

This led some to believe he is an alumnus who was a part of Sons of Light during his time at Samford.

Around 3 a.m., the crowd had dispersed and the SoL member was gone, leaving only the assistant to throw away the tape and reveal the Sons of Light emblem painted in pieces on the stairs in front of the library, only visible when viewed from a slight distance and taken in as a whole.

At the bottom step, a series of six numbers was left—the password for the next clue, sending groups of students on a hurried search for the next clues.

Senior history major Thomas Jenkins was among the crowd who gathered Sunday night and into the morning, after checking the website timer as it turned to zero.

"When I saw the picture of Centennial Walk that appeared not long after the website timer expired, I decided to go out to the quad for a few minutes," Jenkins said.

"I ended up staying for three hours, just because of curiosity. The atmosphere that the Sons created was very interesting, and they've done a great job of getting people excited for whatever will happen next."

Jenkins is part of a group of four searching for the rest of the clues to complete the quest.

While anyone can join the hunt, the pressure is on as only the first nine teams to complete it will "graduate with honors," according to the Sons of Light countdown website.

# It's On Us: Senate, ATO introduce sexual assault awareness pledge

*March 4, 2015*
*Chelsea Pennington*

The brothers of Alpha Tau Omega and members of SGA senate are partnering to bring awareness to students about prevention and response to sexual assault. Every year, there are about 293,000 victims of sexual assault, according to the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN). It is estimated that 68 percent of sexual assaults will not be reported to the police, leading to estimated 98 percent of rapists will never be caught. To help decrease these numbers, President Barack Obama launched the "It's On Us" campaign in September 2014. It is specifically aimed at college campuses to inform people of ways to prevent sexual assault and spread awareness that is not the victim's fault.

The initiative has well-known names behind it, such as Kerry Washington, Jon Hamm and organizations like Microsoft, MTV and SoCon, but the initiative aims to get college campuses involved. Now, Alpha Tau Omega and SGA Senate have partnered to bring the campaign to Samford.

Beeson Woods senator and academic affairs committee chair Laura Ann Prickett was the sponsor for the Senate resolution to bring "It's On Us" to Samford. Prickett, a junior English and political science double major, said sexual assault is not just a national issue and it can happen on Samford's campus. "By saying that 'oh, this is not a problem for our students, we shouldn't be talking about this or concerned about this,' I believe it is really disappointing to victims of sexual assault, because it undermines their experiences and undermines their voice," Prickett said.

She encouraged any individuals or organizations that would like to take the pledge and join the campaign to contact her or other leaders in the movement at Samford, such as junior international relations major and Alpha Tau Omega president William Hargrove.

Hargrove said ATO was one of the first organizations to officially sign the pledge at Samford. "The 'It's on Us' campaign takes all of these issues of sexual misconduct into account and holds members of the community responsible. It is essentially a promise that members will be part of the solution to ending sexual assault and abuse in a community instead of being part of the issue," he said.

"Many of our members are passionate about these issues [of sexual assault] as we have noticed that Birmingham is a central hub for the human trafficking. This pushes the Samford bubble into the discussion of the 'It's on Us' campaign, even if many Samford students believe that sexual assault does not take place in or around our community. It is a reality that we must face," Hargrove added.

Left: Starr Peterson, Claire Graff, Bailey Fuqua, Rachel Laster and Emily Elder participated in the Sons' scavenger hunt.

# Sons of Light

*Article by Elizabeth Mullins, Photos by Bailey Fuqua and Stanley Zeng*

Sons of Light, one of the more notoriously secretive organizations on campus, was surprisingly inactive for most of the school year. So much so that Nicole Smith, a senior human development and family science major, decided to ask about it.

"I decided to tweet at them," said Smith. "Kind of as a joke, but I thought, 'Why not?' Nothing happened for a week until one morning we woke up to find a big Christmas wreath with a creepy black mask and a sealed note from the Sons of Light."

Smith said that the note apologized for the groups' visual absence and encouraged her to be the light in their stead.

The Sons' mysterious absenteeism was broken towards the end of spring semester, when a countdown clock displaying their emblem appeared online. Students waited in anticipation for almost a month while the time clicked down, and when it finally zeroed out, it revealed the first clue in a scavenger hunt, a summons to Centennial Walk.

Claire Graff, a senior human development and family science major, was a member of one of the teams that finished in the first nine slots of the initial hunt. "How many students can say that they have stayed up into the wee hours of the morning following around cloaked, masked members of a secret society?" Graff said.

She recalled her experience with the scavenger hunt, explaining how her team searched all night for codes and clues to enter into the countdown website. They then received emails informing them of their next instructions.

Chelsea Pennington, a junior English creative writing major, was a member of another team who made the cutoff of victors.

"It was a lot of fun to go exploring all over campus and try to figure out what the clues meant—our team was really good because we had backgrounds in literature and history, so we figured out the allusions pretty quickly," said Pennington. "I love a good scavenger hunt, and when it's hosted by a secret society, all the better!"

Members of winning teams were sent packages that contained candles emblazoned with the Sons' emblem as well as honor cords to wear at graduation. «

# Community of Samford Gamers

*Article by Elizabeth Mullins, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

The Community of Samford Gamers (CSG) remained an active and thriving outlet for students to get together and engage in a variety of fun get-togethers and organized game nights.

With involved members and public events as well as activities for their membership, CSG was a group that brought lighthearted fun to game enthusiasts of all levels.

"As an organization, basically our goal is to establish and maintain a community of people who enjoy coming together to play games of all different kinds," said junior biology major Karson Jones, an active member of CSG.

CSG was responsible for planning multiple public events every month, each of them focused specifically on games of a certain type. These ranged from fighting, racing and horror-themed video games, but CSG also made sure that they offered a wide variety of competitions, parties and large tournaments.

"Our most popular event is easily our 'unplugged night,' which we do annually or sometimes bi-annually," junior economics major Hamilton Spivey, who served as president of CSG, said. "For unplugged night, we only play games on handheld consoles or games that require no power source, like board and card games."

"We especially want to reach out to people who don't really identify as 'gamers,' so that they can come and see what we are all about," said Jones. "We try to give all our events a different feel so that we appeal to different groups of people."

Breonna Scott, a junior history major, said, "One event I went to had a lot of multiplayer consoles set up with older games like Mario Party, Naruto, Super Smash Bros., and such. We played all through the night."

CSG was not just fun and games, though. Spivey and the rest of the executive council worked tirelessly to keep the group active. In addition to organizing the public events, they maintained competitive gaming teams and travelled to participate in tournaments with teams from other schools.

With all of these opportunities for involvement and its openness to new members, CSG remained, at its core, about the love of the games. «

Right: Gamers bonded over their love of games at events throughout the year.

# SRT

*Article by Olivia Williams, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

Samford's Student Recruitment Team continued their commitment of serving the University through various events hosted by the Admissions office. These events included four preview days in the fall, two junior preview days, Admitted Students Day, Scholar's Day and weekday campus tours. These events would not be possible without the efforts of the 55 students who made up SRT.

The people behind the red polos and khakis represented all areas of campus life—Greeks, independents, athletes, student ambassadors—who came together to share their passion for Samford. Tabitha Whitacre, president of SRT and a senior education major, said, "SRT can be really fun getting to know such a diverse group of people on campus."

It was that sense of community within the team that made early mornings in the Wright Center before preview days worth it. "I think what makes SRT special is being a team," Courtney Hawkins, junior accounting major, said. "We all have to mesh well together and from what I've seen I feel like we've done that. We all get along and we work together."

Sophomore journalism and mass communication major Molly Catherine Brown enjoyed her first year on the team and encouraged students who are passionate about the school to consider applying. "I think everybody who goes here loves Samford to an extent, but I think you really need to love Samford to be on SRT."

One of Brown's favorite moments from the year was the SRT training retreat, which took place in April. This retreat combined the leadership and expertise of returning SRT members and new members. Highlights from the weekend included team building exercises and roasting s'mores around the campfire. "It was really fun to get to spend time with the older students who were on SRT already," Brown said.

SRT would not be complete without the hard work and dedication that came from its officers. Whitacre served as president alongside vice president and communication sciences and disorders major Spencer Cast, director of membership and journalism and mass communication major Courtney Guhl and secretary accounting major Courtney Hawkins.

"It's been really neat to the see the fruits of your labor paid off in SRT," Whitacre said. Her advice to her fellow teammates was to "Keep the enthusiasm up and the sincerity real." «

Above: Courtney Guhl and Tabitha Whitacre pose with a tour group on campus.

Left: Carson Kennedy and Clay Hubbard chat with Mr. Randy Pittman at an Ambassador dinner.

# Ambassadors

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Rachel Stanback and Sara Nolin*

With the goal of leading balanced lives and reflecting the ideal Samford student, the Samford Ambassadors continued to serve the university through leadership during the school year as they built internal and external relationships.

This group of students assisted the Samford administration with donor, constituent and community relations by sharing their experiences with the university. Each of the members attended organizational meetings twice a month, hosted official university functions and assisted the president and the Office of University Advancement.

Junior interior architecture major Molly McCoy said, "Involvement with Ambassadors led to personal and professional growth in the context of service, as well as the development of a deeper appreciation for the rich heritage of individuals and traditions that make Samford such a unique place."

Samford adkAmbassadors not only had the opportunity to meet university alumni and donors, but also to "personally thank many of the people directly responsible for our educational experiences," senior biology major John Hunsicker said. The Ambassadors had the chance to share their Samford story and foster relationships at events such as Homecoming, Family Weekend, donor dinners, board of trustee meetings and tailgates.

Eleanor Stenner, a senior journalism and mass communication major, said though she has only been a part of the program for a year, "It has been such a formative experience, which has afforded opportunities such as getting to know the Westmorelands, other key administration and alumni through working events and spending time in Samford Hall." Stenner was grateful to gain "a broader picture of the Samford community and how deeply others care about the mission and success of Samford University." In fact, the group had the privilege of hearing from many notable alumni, board members and administrators about their passion for the betterment of Samford.

Director of Alumni Programs Molly McGuire said, "I believe this group of young men and women highly contribute to the mission of Samford. The organization is fortunate to have so many incredible students through every discipline across the campus serving Samford within this role." This group of dedicated students embodied the motto of Samford: "For God, For Learning, Forever." «

# Spanish Club

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Stanley Zeng*

Samford's Spanish Club brought Latin dancing, queso, salsa and much more diversity to campus. This club existed to provide cultural enhancement to academic studies through fun activities that took place outside of the classroom, as well as to inform students of language opportunities at home and abroad and to allow students to benefit from the Spanish experiences of other members of the Samford community.

This year's president, Sarah Grove, was a junior Spanish and communication sciences and disorders double major. Grove's involvement with the club extended throughout the course of her entire Samford career. "My involvement has been extremely meaningful, as the organization has gotten involved in the community to practice Spanish and learn more about the Hispanic culture," Grove said.

Emily Morse, senior Spanish major, valued her experience in the Spanish Club. "Many students choose Spanish to fulfill their language requirement, so building on this linguistic foundation, while learning to appreciate the Spanish culture and language as a whole, helps us relate to a more diverse population of individuals," Morse said. "The spreading influence of Spanish culture in society creates a relevance for the club like never before."

As a part of appreciating the Spanish language and culture, "The group explored local Spanish restaurants and relevant events," said Lauren Sims, a junior journalism and mass communication major.

The club's biggest event each semester was Salsa Night. Dance instructors were brought in from the community and taught Latin dances to both members of the club and anyone in the student body interested in attending.

Through fun and fellowship, this organization fulfilled the Samford motto, "For God, for learning, forever," as they encouraged students to explore avenues in which their knowledge and passion for a foreign language could bring glory to God. «

Above: Senior Lauren Speakman attended a Spanish Club event.

Left: The French Club hosted an event in Harry's Coffeehouse. Below: Dr. Mike Ledgerwood spoke to students.

# French Club

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Stanley Zeng*

Samford's French Club brought "un petit goût de France" to campus as they furthered student and public understanding of and exposure to the French language, literature and culture. The organization met three to six times a month to host speakers, show films and for other events that furthered knowledge.

President and junior international relations major Emily Praktish has been involved with the club for two years.

"I enjoyed working alongside Dr. West, the club's faculty advisor and William Hargrove, the PR officer, to plan events that include French food and various francophone cultural experiences," Praktish said.

Hargrove, also a junior international relations major, spent a portion of summer 2014 in France. "I have loved the opportunity to gather with others who share the same appreciation for French culture and language that developed during my time in France," Hargrove said.

Senior French and math double major Abby McAtee, said, "French is so much more than a general education requirement. This language is a preview into an entirely other world."

McAtee will be using her knowledge of French daily through her vocation upon graduation. "I am indebted to this organization for incorporating the cultural component into the Samford experience," McAtee said. "Some of my favorite experiences with the club have included native speakers coming to teach practical applications and monopolizing on the stereotypical French desserts as we have endless amounts of crepes at our meetings."

Club officers shared their love of French culture with the student body in many ways, from hosting information tables to handing out desserts. The club hosted an event on March 9 in honor of International Women's Day. They also created a panel and roundtable discussion during International Francophone Week. In honor of Earth Day on April 22, the club hosted a French film showing on the environment.

Hargrove said, "It is actions like these that brought not only French culture to Samford, but also reminded me of the experience I had in Europe." «

# Student Government Association

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Sara Nolin, Natalie Wilkinson and Bailey Fuqua*

The Student Government Association represented and promoted student interest in the decision-making process on campus as they cultivated leadership among students and the five branches of SGA, presided over by the Student Executive Board.

Patrick Ramsay, a senior journalism and mass communication major and senior class president, said one of the biggest changes brought about by SGA this year was "raising the expectations of the roles in Student Government, as well as giving Samford students a stronger understanding of how much the association impacts various parts of campus."

Maddie Davis, a senior journalism and mass communication major, said the Student Executive Board worked to improve each branch of SGA. "We looked at the Code of Laws and adjusted some of the clauses to better cater to the students and update old wording." Davis, a four-year member of SGA, said she enjoyed taking on a new role this year as Vice President for Events on SEB. "I have loved getting to actively be a part of changes happening on campus alongside such an incredible team," Davis said.

As always, the Student Activities Council branch of SGA brought numerous campus-wide events and programs throughout the year.

Julia Simmons, a senior history major and director of annual events, said "My favorite part of being involved in SGA was planning Homecoming, because it encompasses so many offices across campus."

The class officers also provided fun and free food to students with activities such as study breaks in Harry's and a free Taziki's luncheon for seniors.

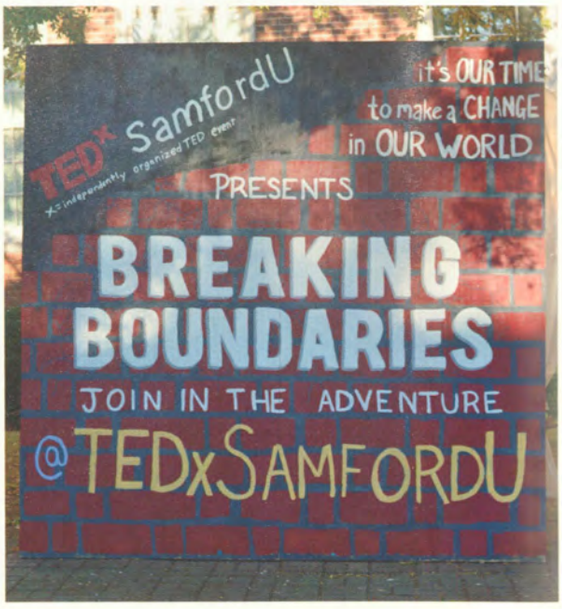
As the voice of Samford students, Senate allocated funds to organizations and initiated resolutions to create positive change, such as the "It's On Us" pledge to bring awareness to sexual assault prevention.

SGA continued to bring the best to Samford as it united a growing campus. McDavid Maddox, a senior marketing major and SGA President, said "I have been humbled to learn how many individuals – faculty, staff, administrators – it takes to keep our university running. It has been my honor to work together with these people to better Samford and learn from them." «

Above: Members of Senate met regularly to discuss campus issues and plans.
Right page, middle left: Porter Rivers, Stephen Newton, Chase Cunningham and Jenny Lorentz at a Senate meeting.
Middle right: Laura Ann Prickett at Senate.
Lower left: The Student Executive Board posed for a Christmas-themed photo shoot.
Lower right: SEB hosted a question-and-answer table in the Caf.

Left: Student Executive Board members McDavid Maddox, Will Yarborough, Barlow Marriott and Maddie Davis at the Your School, Your City concert.
Below: Maddie Davis and Bailey Fuqua represented SGA at Orientation.

Left: TEDxSamfordU leaders brought guest speakers to campus.



# TEDx

*Article by Sarah Bailey, Photos by Stanley Zeng and Aly Hathcock*

A large blackboard in the middle of campus posed a question to the student body: "What do you want to accomplish before you die?" Within 12 hours, the board was chalked full of Samford students' dreams and goals.

This board was used to advertise an event put on by TEDxSamfordU, a team of five students dedicated to bringing a professional TEDx event to campus.

Held on March 25, Samford's TEDx event was a booming success. Brooks Auditorium packed with hopeful students looking for sparks of curiosity and wisdom.

"Our mission was to offer the Samford community an innovative, intellectual forum to explore ideas and connect with others who share a similar curiosity for the world," junior journalism and mass communication major Aly Hathcock explained.

After much deliberation, the theme "Breaking Boundaries" was chosen for the event.

"TEDxSamfordU discusses a wide variety of topics ranging from Alabama history to the future of autonomous cars," freshman computer science major and TEDxSamfordU leadership member Chris Kawell said.

Conclusively, the leadership team aimed to motivate students to see the world as forward-moving and full of opportunity.

The TEDxSamfordU leadership team started planning for the TEDx talks long before the hard work came to fruition.

Late in the fall semester, after months of waiting for approval, the TEDxSamfordU leadership team finally received the TED license to host a conference.

From there, the search for speakers began. After many interviews, scheduling conflicts and tough decisions, the team chose six prominent speakers from various facets of the Birmingham community.

Above all, TEDxSamfordU inspired students to continually learn and engage intellectually. As Hathcock described her vision for TEDxSamfordU, she said, "Quite simply, ideas empower. A good idea, properly leveraged, can have an immense effect on our future." «

# Student Activities Council

*Article by Riley Ford, Photos by Aly Hathcock and Sara Nolin*

The Student Activities Council (SAC) planned another superb year of events for the Samford community. Welcome Back Week, Homecoming Week, Lighting of the Way, Harry's Coffeehouse Concerts, and Spring Fling were only a few of the events SAC produced that students enjoyed because of the creativity and effort that each committee put into the development of each event.

SAC responded to student surveys and requests to plan events and giveaways that a wide variety of students would enjoy.

"I love that SAC seeks to serve all students," Maddie Davis, vice president of events and senior journalism and mass communication major, said. "We try to plan activities and events that will reach different interests throughout campus. The directors and committee members work really hard and I am so proud of the team we had working together this semester."

SAC implemented a few new twists on old favorites. The Homecoming Parade transformed into an affair that more organizations could be a part of with the decorating of boards in Ben Brown Plaza throughout the week leading up to Homecoming.

The goal of all the events that SAC produced was to unify students and generate more pride for Samford and the Birmingham community.

Junior journalism and mass communication major and annual events committee member Sydnee Wisler spoke of the importance of SAC to her. "I love being a part of SAC because it is a way that I get to be a part of celebrating Samford's best traditions and events," Wisler said. "I love that SAC brings the whole campus together and it gives everyone a chance to do something together."

The members of SAC were able to run with their responsibility and conclude another year of excellent student events for the student body.

"Events such as Welcome Back Week, Thursday night Harry's concerts and the annual Easter egg hunt are just a few of the many things SAC is in charge of, and all of these events provide the Samford community with the opportunity to come together and just have fun amidst the stress of school," annual events director and junior psychology major Alex Woodard, said. «

Right: Hundreds of students raced across the quad to gather SAC giveaways in the ever-popular Easter egg hunt.

# Debate Team

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Sara Nolin*

The Debate team has existed since 1841 to compete in policy debate tournaments across the country. "The team continues to provide a competitive forum where students can enhance their public speaking, research, and organizational skills," said Director of Debate and Assistant Professor Dr. Ryan Galloway.

Sean Slattery, debate coach and instructor, said, "There is nothing more rewarding than working with intellectually curious and fiercely competitive young academics."

Debate traveled to the University of Kentucky in the fall, and took both the second and third place in the novice division. A few weeks later, sophomore a pre-business major Aaron Atwell, and sophomore political science major Marley Davis took first place in the novice division at the Samford tournament. In the spring, the team traveled to Wichita State University, where the team earned honors at the Cross Examination Debate Association national tournament.

Not only did the team participate in various competitions nationwide, but they also hosted a number of other events. The team held a series of Birmingham Area Debate Leagues competitions for under-privileged middle and high school students from the greater Birmingham area. They also hosted a nationally recognized high school tournament, the Bishop Guild Debate Tournament, a qualifier for the prestigious Tournament of Champions. Additionally, the members facilitated a high school institute that brought together 35 students from around the nation during the summer to hone their skills. The team both hosted and competed in a regional SEC college tournament, taking home the title in the novice division.

The organization also hosted a public debate at Samford centered on the topic of the societal pros and cons of legalizing marijuana.

The Debate team drew Erin Carley, a junior psychology major, to Samford. "My favorite part of being involved with the group is the coaching staff and the service the team does in the Birmingham debate community," Carley said. Every month, the team brought students to Samford to coach and judge their debate skills. "Seeing the kids grow in their skill is amazing to watch and an extremely humbling experience," Carley said.

It was experiences such as these that Davis Kimball, a junior political science major, said made "the Debate team full of opportunities that simply aren't available in the average classroom setting."

Dr. Galloway said, "The debate team allows me the opportunity to work with students who are bright, motivated and pursue a variety of different interests; young minds who will change the world."

The Samford debaters continued to compete wholeheartedly as a nationally recognized team. «

Above: Members of the debate team met in Brooks Hall.

# Model United Nations

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Sara Nolin*

Model United Nations (MUN) was an authentic simulation of the United Nations General Assembly and other similar bodies. As Model U.N. delegates, students assumed the role of an ambassador to the United Nations.

MUN provided students unique experiences to learn about international affairs and to work with people to try to make a difference in the world. The members of Samford's MUN team attended two conferences this year. In the fall, the ambassadors traveled to Washington D.C., where they earned three awards. Madison Schneider, a senior marketing major, won the Best Delegate award. In the spring, the team traveled to Menton, on the French Riviera.

Juliana Guzman, a delegate and sophomore language and world trade major, said, "The purpose of MUN is to try to discuss international issues and reach a consensus that best represents the country a delegate is assigned to." An interest in international politics and global issues led Guzman to participate in Samford's team. Though MUN does not solve the issues themselves, they significantly contribute to awareness of global problems, including the ramifications of international policies on various countries. Guzman said, "I also enjoyed having the opportunity to "meet people from different countries and cultures, as well as hear their opinions on current issues."

While in Menton, Schneider participated in the NATO simulation representing Italy. Schneider said, "I have learned so much from my time on the team, and international conferences such as these are wonderful outlets to practice public speaking and discussion of global topics. Another fascinating part is having the chance to hear the unique views everyone brings to the table."

Sophomore Emily Praktish said this year's conferences were a reminder of the unique opportunity MUN provided to explore the politics of international diplomacy. As an international relations major, Praktish said, "this is an invaluable experience to glimpse what my future career may look like, from the research, to the policy briefs, to the debates."

Katie Peake, a senior international relations major, served as this year's Head Delegate, a role that included responsibilities such as conducting team meetings, coordinating with the advisor and liaising with conference organizers. Peake said, "My favorite memory from the team would be convening in the actual Palais des Nations when the team attended a conference in Geneva, Switzerland. This incredible institution was built between 1929 and 1936 and served as the headquarters for the League of Nations. This exposure reminded me that the 'hypothetical' problems we debate are very real and there are people across the world gathering everyday to solve them." «

Left: Model United Nations delegates prepared for competitions around the country and the world.

# College Democrats

*Article by Teddy Vance, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

Samford Democrats had a very busy year. Alex Davis, Marley Davis and Aaron Atwell served as president, vice president and treasurer, respectively. The leaders of the organization worked hard to raise awareness for 2014's mid-term elections. The organization also had multiple guests come speak at various events throughout the year.

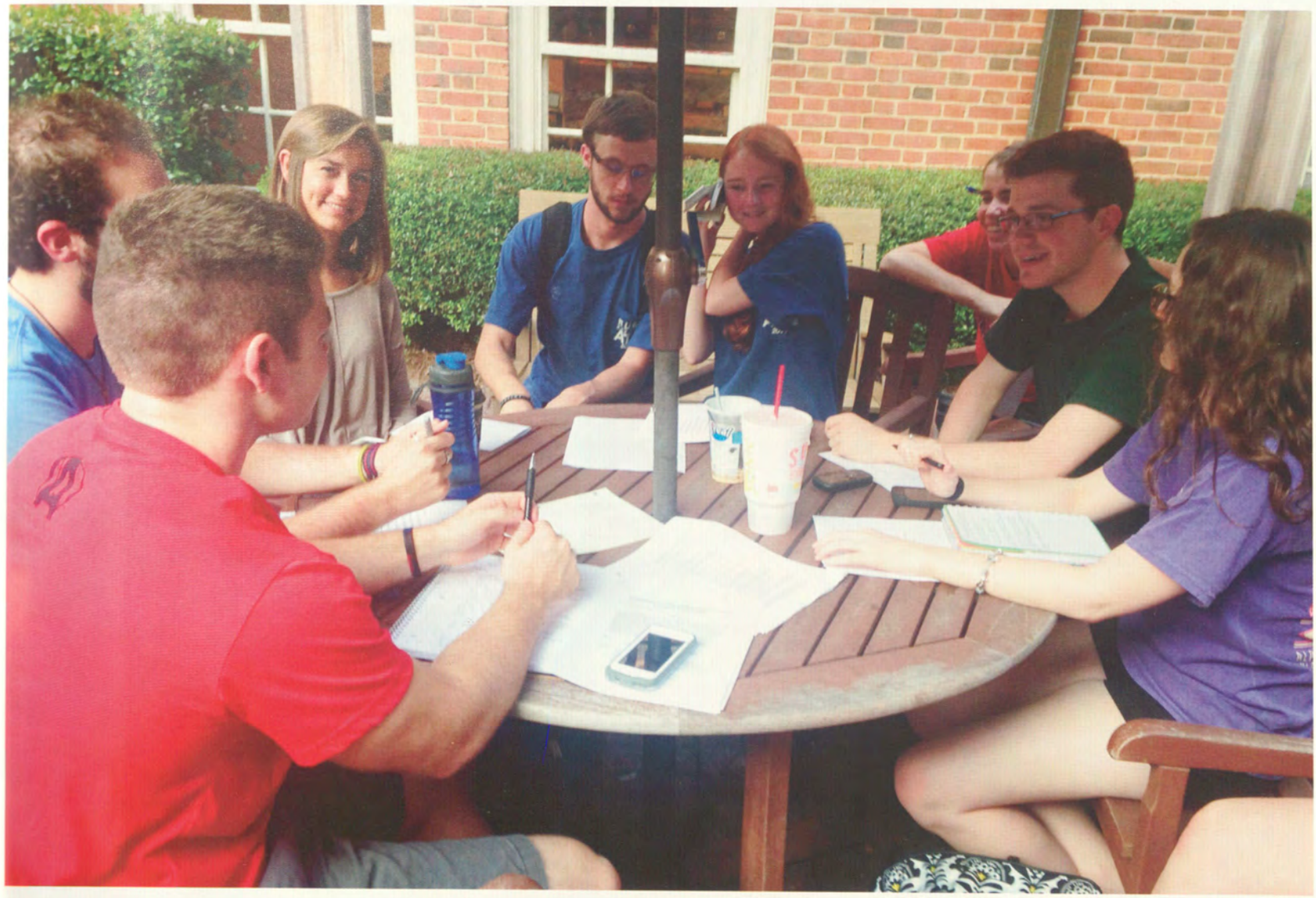
"We worked to inform students of important elections in Jefferson County," Anderson Gass, a junior political science major, said.

College Democrats also hosted a number of guest speakers on campus this year. Guests included Mark Lester, a candidate for Alabama Congressional District 6 in the fall 2014 mid-term elections, and Alabama Representative Patricia Todd for a discussion of politics in the state house.

"College Democrats also helped with the Rally for Justice," Marley Davis, vice president of College Democrats and a junior political science major, said.

Other events College Democrats hosted included sending students to a campaign rally for Attorney General candidate Joe Hubbard, hosted by the Cumberland School of Law, as well as sending students to the Alabama College Democrats State Federation annual meetings. «

Above: Samford Democrats hosted an information table in Ben Brown Plaza. Right: The organization hosted Mark Lester, a candidate for Alabama Congressional District 6.



Left: Several students attended a campaign rally for Joe Hubbard, a candidate for Attorney General.

# College Republicans

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Julie LaForce, Kaitlin Mullen and Stanley Zeng*

The College Republicans chapter existed to unite conservative college students so that together they might promote, support and actively volunteer in advocacy of a better, stronger America. With a rich history of hosting distinguished speakers on campus, as well as vibrant on-campus meetings, the group brought a lot to the table at Samford.

For many students, like senior journalism and mass communication major Julie LaForce, the group provided a wonderful opportunity to explore their political beliefs.

"College Republicans encourages students to truly research politics and decide viewpoints based on personal opinion, not just what others say and believe," LaForce said.

Senior journalism and mass communication major Kathleen Sharp said, "Being involved with College Republicans gave me the chance to make great connections and hear from Republicans currently campaigning for or in office." Sharp served as secretary of the group.

The group also hosted fun events, such as this year's mid-term election results viewing party. Students who attended the results party received free Chick-Fil-A and had plenty of political discussion.

Chairman of College Republicans, Barlow Marriott, a senior economics major, said he joined the group his freshman year because he cared deeply for his country. "I view College Republicans as a vehicle to allow millennials to be heard in Washington and to help our generation better understand the political process," Marriott said.

The future of the College Republicans is sure to be exciting as they prepare for another presidential election next year. «

Right: Students met for a mid-term election results viewing party.

Above: Tanner Yancy, Barlow Marriott, Julie LaForce and Kathleen Sharp represented College Republicans at the organizations fair.

# Air Force ROTC

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Stanley Zeng and Tate Holcombe*

Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps was a dedicated group of hard-working individuals. Although they only made up a small portion of Samford's population, the program made a huge impact on those involved.

"My favorite things about AFROTC are the leadership training, family environment and opportunities to serve others," said senior French major and AFROTC resource officer Joshua Heath.

AFROTC cultivated discipline and leadership in order to train future officers. However, students did not have to commit to military service to be involved with the program.

"I wish the student body realized that the program can greatly benefit everyone's professional development even if they have no desire to enter the Air Force," lieutenant colonel Travis Dixon said. "The program can help make them a better leader, a better manager and a better person without requiring them to commit to military service."

AFROTC required physically and mentally demanding work. During a typical week the cadets had physical training at 6 a.m. once a week, a three-hour class that covered academic material and various training opportunities.

"Being a college student, we do not participate in ROTC related activities every day of the week, but at least three days a week," said senior nursing major and training group commander Kaley Cusumano. "Not only are there benefits in a career, but cadets learn about themselves, about serving others and are challenged to improve their both leadership skills and fitness level."

For the cadets, AFROTC was more than just an extracurricular activity. The time they spent together and the bond they shared made them a family.

"I wish the Samford student body knew more about our desire to serve our country," said Heath. "Many people see AFROTC as just another club or social group, when in reality, we are training to become future leaders in the United States Air Force." «

Above: AFROTC cadets stand at attention during a formal taking down of the colors ceremony.

Below: PAC officers Megan Lamneck, Porter Rivers and Ellen Williams.
Left: PAC members cooled off after assisting with freshman move-in.

# PAC

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Karalee Geis*

The Philanthropy Awareness Council furthered its mission of promoting awareness of the importance of giving to Samford University this school year. PAC emphasized to its fellow students that the Samford experience was made possible in part by donor gifts to the university from alumni, parents and friends and not solely from tuition revenue alone. This organization was made up of leaders from all across campus with a variety of areas of involvement.

"PAC includes Greeks, independents, class presidents, bible study leaders and so much more," said Ellen Williams, a junior nursing major and this year's PAC president. Williams said "Each leader in PAC strives to bring awareness of giving to each organization at Samford, no matter the size."

Junior English major Margaret Mason said, "PAC strived to impart upon Samford's campus that we are who we are today because of those who came before us. Though our time here is limited, we can still give back while we are here by thanking, serving and relating to the alumni who make the monetary contributions which allow the electricity to come on, new buildings to be built and scholarships to be given."

By bridging the gap between undergraduates and alumni through actively displaying how one act of kindness or note of thanks makes a difference, this organization fulfilled one of its foundational purposes.

Mason said her favorite event PAC hosted took place on freshman move-in day. "We had the chance to serve the new members of our community, in hopes that they know they have been prayed over and thought about before they even began loading their car for their trek to their new home," Mason said.

It is with this mindset that PAC operated, as the group recognized that intentional conversations, gracious actions and deep relationships were the main reasons alumni donated today.

PAC constantly asked the question: "What if we started being intentional now and did not wait until after graduating to seek conversations with people? Could a conversation, a cup of coffee or a night at a neon dance party with a current student spark service to better Samford now?" PAC continued to both educate the student body and express gratitude to the men and women who made the Samford experience a reality. «

# Black Student Union

*Article by Elizabeth Mullins, Photos by Aly Hathcock*

Members of Black Student Union strove to help create a campus that was accepting and appreciative of diversity. "The purpose of the organization is to promote positive relationships between black students and the rest of the Samford student body," Erin Carley, junior psychology major and president of BSU, said. "We aim to do this by promoting an environment of inspiration for black students to excel, educating the student body about the history and culture of black Americans, discouraging racial insensitivity, supporting and defending the human and civil rights of other minorities and serving as an 'umbrella' organization for all minorities on campus."

Members and officers of BSU worked to improve student life interpersonally. Javion Lee, a sophomore biology major, served in one such position. "My role as First Year Representative, in my view, was mainly a role defined by guidance, reassurance and assistance," Lee said.

"I sought to make their BSU experience a fun one with the events we held. Being able to make their experience a happy one was a worthy achievement."

BSU also utilized campus- and community-wide events to raise awareness about their organization as well as their mission to increase awareness, tolerance, and acceptance of diversity.

"We, in partnership with other organizations on campus, hosted the Nathifa Dance Company, which is located here in Birmingham. Their instructor came here and taught a West African dance aerobics class, which was amazing," Carley said.

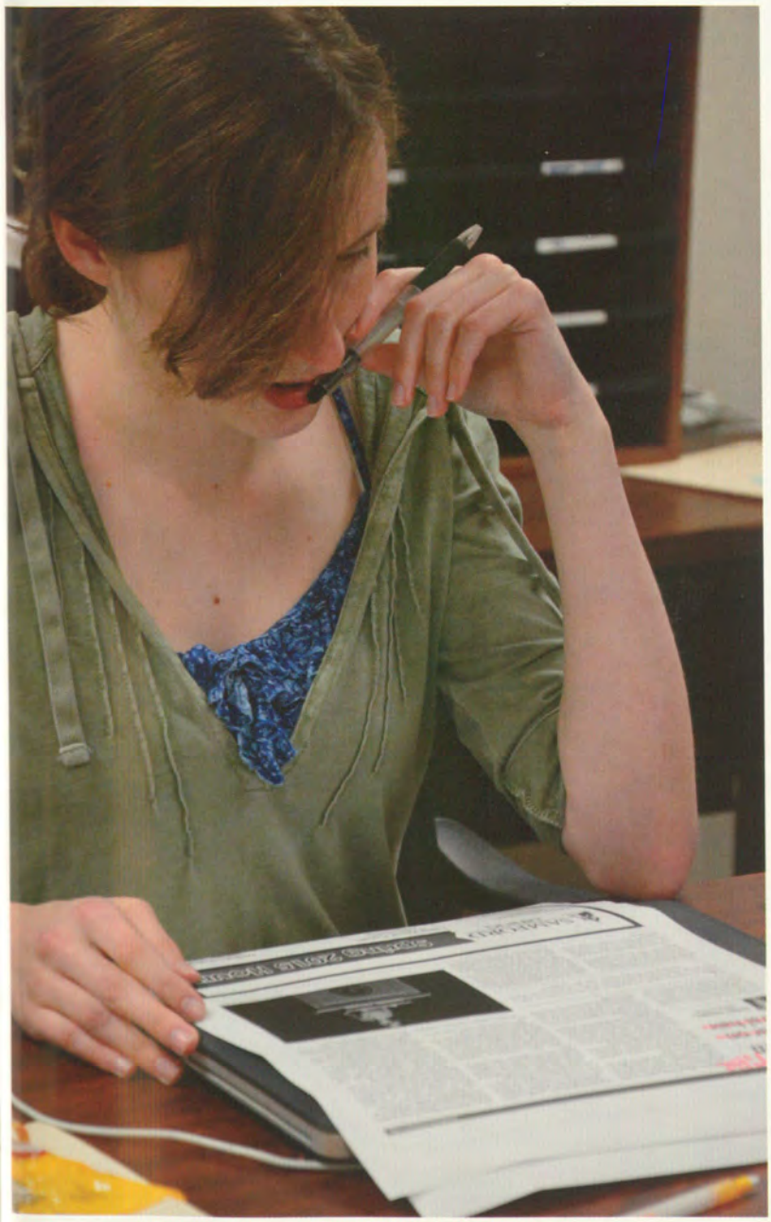
"I think my favorite events were the BSU Rave and the BSU Cookout," Miranda Agun, a junior biology major and treasurer for BSU, said.

"At these specific events, I truly saw African Americans and other races mingle with each other more than I have seen at any event I have been to. It seemed as if differences were not even there."

"Our social events this year attracted so much diversity," Carley said. "It was all I could ever ask for as a president, and I'm hopeful that legacy will continue." «

Samford's BSU hosted a spring cookout at the intramural fields.

Left: Yvonne Thomas reports for the Samford News Network.
Below: Madison Miles and Rachel Stanback work on *Entre Nous*.



Above: Sydney Cromwell, editor-in-chief of the *Crimson*, looks over an issue.

# Student Media

*Article by Claire Jaggers, Photos by Aly Hathcock and Sara Nolin*

Media constantly evolves and this year was no exception. With award-winning publications that included *The Samford Crimson*, *Entre Nous*, the Samford News Network and *Sojourn* as well as the student-led radio station WVSU, students found a voice on campus to help further their educations.

Junior journalism and mass communication major McClain McKinney shared plans to evolve the campus radio station, WVSU, from its current jazz format to encompass a larger sphere of listeners and students. He viewed this as a great opportunity extended to students interested in broadcast journalism, which would allow them to communicate more efficiently and give a powerful voice to the student body.

"Being able to articulate your words in such a way that captivates an audience is such an essential tool to have," McKinney said. He said that his current job and internship positions were made possible with the help of the staff who provided him with the contacts and resources to be successful.

Sydney Cromwell, editor-in-chief of *The Samford Crimson*, had similar praise for Samford's journalism and mass communication department, which she felt prepared her to go into a work environment. "There is no substitute for this kind of practical experience," Cromwell said.

Cromwell was proud of the direction the newspaper was moving in, with a recent push for more coverage of issues on campus. The newspaper's online format also changed to accommodate the growing role of social media with potential to grow.

The vision for *Entre Nous* developed under the leadership of senior journalism mass communication major Rachel Stanback. "I loved being involved in student media, and specifically the yearbook, because it gave me real-world journalism experience and also meant I was part of recording my classmates' memories and the highlights of this year for years to come. A strong student media presence is a critical aspect of campus," she said.

Leaders within student media were always seeking to involve more students as they pursued quality content in a way that related to the Samford community. "Whatever might be of interest to students, we try to bring that in and tie it to the campus in a local way," Cromwell said. «

# DiversABILITY

*Article by Kristen Jackson, Photos by Sara Nolin*

This year DiversABILITY held two main events and focused on raising awareness on campus about what it was like to live with a disability. DiversABILITY also worked to further minimize barriers for students with disabilities on campus by raising money to help fix broken sidewalks and add ramps around campus. DiversABILITY made progress by recreating the campus map so that all of the accessible entrances were included. The organization also raised enough money to put automatic doors in Propst Hall.

"Being involved in DiversABILITY has opened my eyes to all the issues around Samford's campus that students with disabilities face everyday," junior psychology major Audrey Torkar said. "Since I was the vice president this year, I was able to help bring awareness to these issues in order to help make the campus more accessible."

The primary focus of the organization for the spring semester was awareness. They held the awareness event "Unlimited: Our Stories" on April 7, at which junior international relations major Kaitlin Moore, junior exercise science major Jessica Hill and junior psychology major Meg Kellenberger had the opportunity to share their stories.

"For the 'Unlimited: Our Stories' event, I was able to share my experience with my disability alongside two other students on campus with different disabilities, and then we had a Q&A," Kellenberger said. "The event was a huge success, with over 100 students in attendance, and we were able to answer many students' questions about life with a disability. I've been involved with DiversABILITY since the beginning and it has been great to see how this organization is impacting Samford in a positive way, and I'm blessed to be a part of it." Each of the three speakers encouraged a new outlook on diversity all while emphasizing the importance of not allowing a disability to define one's identity.

"Unlimited was a special time where we had the honor of sharing our struggles with our disability, which does not define us and what we can do. Our 'disability' simply is not a condition; it pushes us and those who struggle to do the unimaginable," Hill said. «

Above: Kara Young, Meg Kellenberger and Audrey Torkar.
Right: Kaitlin Moore spoke at "Unlimited: Our Stories."

# Restoring Eden

*Article by Jordan Webb, Photos by Paige Van de Vuurst*

Restoring Eden was a movement of like-minded people who saw a strong connection between Christian spirituality and the role as caretakers of creation. Samford's chapter based its values off of Restoring Eden nationally in making hearts bigger, hands dirtier and voices stronger for God's creation by rediscovering the biblical call to love, serve and protect what He has made. The group worked towards sustainability and awareness about the call towards environmental stewardship on campus.

Ashley Rowe, a senior exercise science major and vice president of communications for Restoring Eden, was involved with the organization since her freshman year at Samford. Rowe said, "My experience has been nothing but positive. I have been a part of the group promoting glass and coffee ground recycling, participating in Samford's Earth Day events, as well as laying the foundation for a garden on campus." She said the group has also provided the opportunity to meet other students with a shared passion for the environment and taking care of our planet.

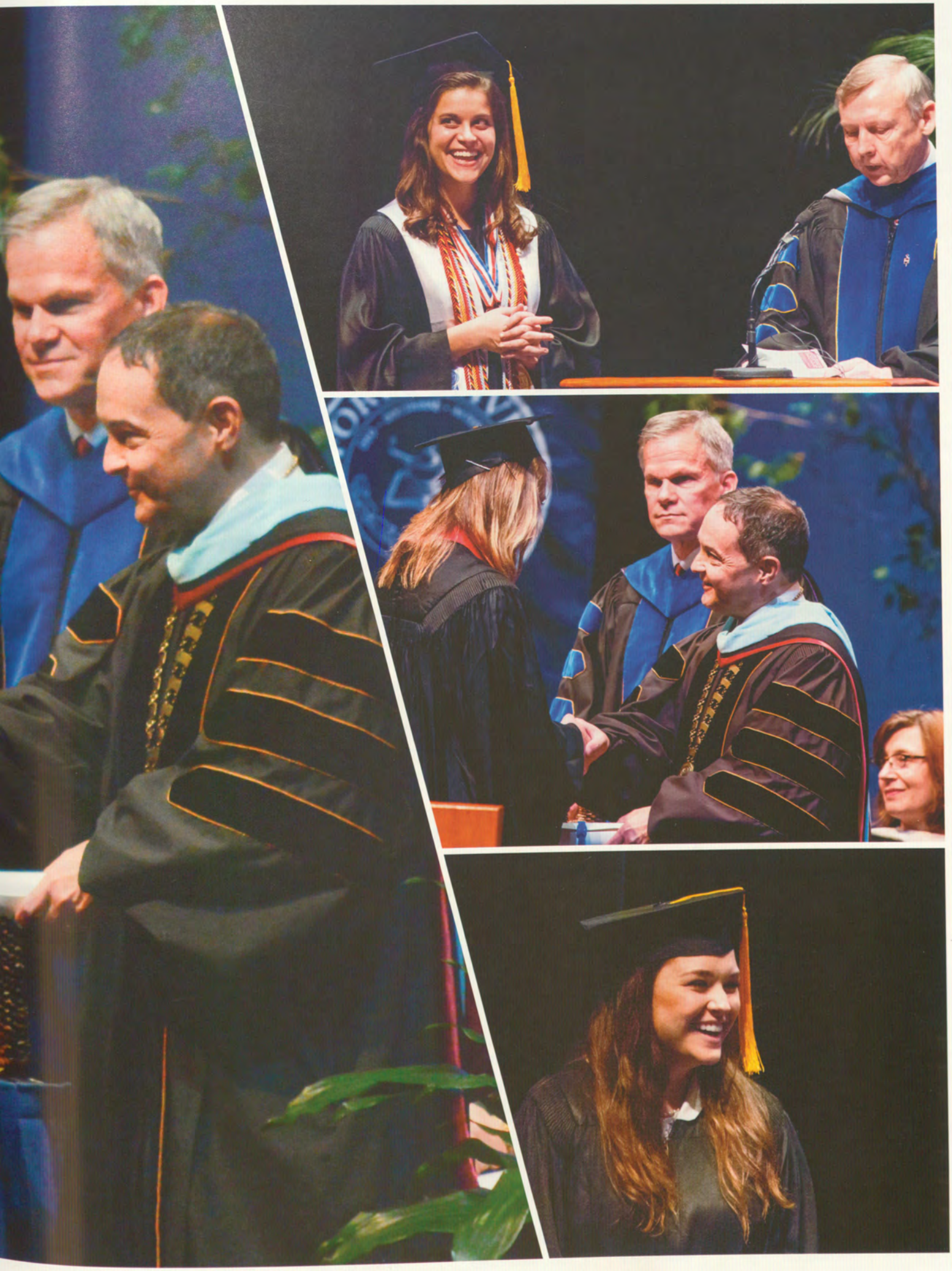
The group is also active in the Birmingham area. Chelsea Jamieson, a junior environmental science major, said, "Some of my favorite events Restoring Eden did were Samford Gives Back in the community as well as a group hike on local trails."

The community garden was part of an effort of the organization to be more action-oriented. Nikki Sharpton, a senior marketing major, said, "The garden will be a fun and interesting way to show people the difference we can make on campus." It is the group's hope that the presence of the garden will be a continued reminder to students of how important preservation of the environment is and the impact it has on the food they eat.

As Restoring Eden consistently worked to be good stewards in their daily lives and to teach others to do the same through education, appreciation and service, they made Samford a greener place while preserving God's beautiful creation. «

Left: Ashley Rowe represented Restoring Eden at the Organizations fair.

# Commencement



# December 2014 Graduates

Rami Abbassi

Kaissling Akers

Maureen Alford

Chandler Ancona

Claire Anderson

Jessica Arkin

Alfredo Attie Jr.

Carson Barnett

Elliot Barnwell

Jason Baugher

Christopher Beard

Kayla Beard

Alena Bearden

Perry Beasley

Jaisen Bell

Kathleen Bennett

Jamie Blalock

Caleb Blow

Jordan Boatright

Laura Boures

Lekica Boyd

Heather Brewer

Dellsa Brooka

Brittanni Brown

David Brown

Rachel Brown

Jonathan Bush

Mary Butts

Linda Campanotta

Jing Cao

Yidan Cao

Leslie Carlisle

Sadie Carson

Michael Caughron

Kristie Cavitt-Morris

Travis Chaise

# December 2014 Graduates

Shelley Chapman

Nicole Charley

Jeremy Childers

Lauren Churey

Casey Clark

Francine Clegg

Allison Clement

Elizabeth Clemons

Erin Cooney

Karen Cooper

Nicholas Cork

Ivy Corron

Emma Crist

Madeline Cross

Shayla Cunningham

Alexandria Daponte

Grace Ann Davis

Matthew Dean

Helen Degree

Megan Dernaika

Chelsea Dorer

Mica Driggers

Jeanne Dunaway

Lindsay Duncan

Danielle Eben

Morgan Eddy

Anjell Edwards

Myra Edwards

Virginia Edwards

Lmelda Effiong

Victoria Efird

Jiagi Fan

Teng Fei

Julia Ferrell

Kathryn Fleming

Mary Flemming

# December 2014 Graduates

Kathryn Fraser

Elizabeth Fuller

Joshua Fuller

Angela Gann

Emile Garcia

Cody Gardner

Caroline Garner

Jennifer Gassner

Jeremiaha Gates

Cari Gelderman

Rebecca Giambrone

Colleen Gillary

Pam Givhan

Martha Kate Goforth

Christopher Graben

Jennifer Gray

Kimberly Green

Isaiah Gresham

Claire Grogan

Blake Guffin

Mary Gurney

Leah Hains

Stephen Hall

Caroline Harbin

Stephen Harria

Kristen Henning

Cynthia Heyne

Brittany Hoffman

Rusty Hughes

Caleb Hullett

Chen Huo

Joseph Ingram

Tabitha Ivey

Alexandria Jackson

Benjamin Jackson

Kayla Jackson

# December 2014 Graduates

Stephanie Jacobs

Madison Janssen

Alexander Jasper

Philip Jenkins Jr.

Andrew Jones

Davis Jones

Wendi Jones

Hannah Joseph

Haley Jost

Olivia Kaetz

Allison Kartz

Charles Kearley

Kendra Kellerman

Joshua Kendrick

Carnetta Kennedy

Phillip Ketcham

John Keyton

Lauren Kilgore

Brandon Knight

Mikela Knox

Abigail Korman

Jennifer Lackey

Ryan Lancaster

Danielle Lavett

Joshua Lay

Alexandra Ledbetter

Kristen Ledford

Hannah Lee

Olivia Lewis

Rachael Lewis

Kai Li

Robin Litaker

Lin Liu

Jamese Lockett

Mary Loo

Huigang Lu

# December 2014 Graduates

Alex Luovik

Patrick Maronde

Ashley Martin

Nichalas Martini

Sophia McCormack

Vaughn McCrary

Connor McGee

Mary McNabb

Emily Merrill

Christopher Milazzo

Eileen Milligan

Lindsey Millsap

James Minor

Natalie Mitchell

Kelley Monroe

Bradford Murtagh

Vivian Myers

Willis Neal

Jared Nelsen

Brandon Nettles

Donald Newlin

Kathleen Nolin

Michael Oneal

Patrick Ordoyne

Adair Osman

Abby Ozment

Dana Page

Stephanie Palmer

Caron Pedersen

Elizabeth Pitchiah

Lindsay Plan

Sonya Ponder

Kelsey Pope

Mary Kathryn Price

Dorris Rainey

Alexa Ralston

# December 2014 Graduates

Jennifer Ramey

Christina Rollins

Vanessa Romana

Calvin Ruff

Franetta Ryans

Marsha Savage

Kimberly Scott

Emily Scruggs

Gretchen Sevin

Dana Sheheane

Jiaxin Shen

Jeffrey Sherman

Jun Shi

Lucas Sieb

Dawn Simons

Carolyn Simpson

Patricia Simpson

Scott Simpson

Andrea Skates

Amanda Smith

Anna Smith

Spencer Smith

Lansdon Spear

Elizabeth Striplin

Jaquiski Tartt

Kaitlyn Teem

Lauren Thrasher

Pamela Tipton

Jan Tribble

Fabian Truss

Avery Tuggle

Jennifer Waladez

Christopher Walker

Kristie Walker

Liz Walker

Susannah Walters

# December 2014 Graduates

Xinyun Wang

Xzaonan Wang

Yilun Wang

Yue Wang

Janet Washington

Debra West

Margaret Whittle

Brandon Wilkinson

Charlene Williams

Jessica Williams

Maria Paula Wilson

Olivia Wright

Yingchao Wu

Xiaoxi Xu

Alexandra Younger

Jingxiong Zhang

Ying Zhang

Yanyu Zhao

Lauren Ziemer

Courtney Zimmer

# School of the Arts & Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education

Matthew Akin

Lindsey Atkins

Elizabeth Bacon

Katherine Baker

Elizabeth Barbour

Bradley Baxter

# School of the Arts & Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education

Stephen Benedict

Abigail Benke

Nancy Berta

Anna Bethea

Rachel Bickert

Taylor Blair

Ashley Blankenship

Hannah Blanton

Lindsey Bloodworth

Shelbi Bush

Katelyn Buzbee

Victoria Bye

Lindsay Caddell

Kathryn Capps

Christine Carrier

Rachel Cason

Sarah Casteel

Katherine Clemens

Autumn Combs

Aaron Conner

Lindy Cooper

Jacqueline Cotter

Brittany Crabtree

Caroline Derrick

Gracen Dod

Grace Dvornik

Paul Edmundson Jr

Emily Elder

Caroline England

Rebekah Ferguson

Richard Ford

Lauren Fowler

Traci Giffin

Margaret Gill

Morgan Gillespie

Deanna Gipson

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Claire Graff

Hunter Green

Margaret Hayes

Elizabeth Henard

Katherine Hintz

Teresa Holder

Laura Hollaway

Anna Holt

Abigail Hope

Nathan Howard

Julia Huff

Hannah Illges

Jacob Ingram

Laura Jackson

Suzette Johnson

Emily Kelley

Katherine King

Stacia King

Catherine Koch

Carin Lagerberg

Terrill Lane

Dana Lardent

Emily Lavender

Carrie Lavendol

Jordan Legg

Scottie Lenning

Elizabeth Lester

Darrell Long

Lisa Lothspeich

Alysse Manuel

Shirley Marks

Melody Martinez

Sharon Mays

Mari McCaslin

Meredith McClanahan

# School of the Arts & Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education

Mary McClure

Kyle McGucken

Mary Menefee

Katelyn Mielke

Savannah Miller

Maddison Moellering

Brandon Morrison

Autumn Mullins

Grace Mullins

Melanie Neff

Carlos Nelson

Hannah Newman

Emily Nichols

Patrick O'Connor

Lifeng Pan

Harper Parkey

Starr Peterson

Camille Pilcher

Bonnie Poticny

Ashley Pugh

James Ramey

Spence Robertson

Katherine Rodgers

Nathalie Roeling

Travis Scarboro

Jane Schwartz

Neely Scott

Emma Seay

Katie Singleton

Madison Slate

Nicole Smith

Elizabeth Spears

India Stallings

Ashley Storey

Gordon Stricklin

Maggie Sutton

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Christine Tanner

Anna Thigpen

Katherine Tooker

Brandy Travis

Chelsea Treadway

Stephanie Turner

Jennifer Vassell

Katherine Vest

Cory Wagener

Amy Walker

Jennifer Warren

Jordan Webb

Tabitha Whitacre

# Howard College of Arts and Sciences

Jenna Adams

Austin Akers

Michael Arthur

Katherine Belcher

Griffin Benton

John Blackmon

Danielle Blanco

Brittany Bostick

Kaitlyn Bouchillon

Sarah Bowhay

Emily Bradford

Wilson Brantley

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Kristin Brining

Rebekah Brooks

Andrew Brown

Emily Brown

Jeremy Brown

Rebecca Brown

Lauren Buck

Elizabeth Bueche

Rachel Burbanks

Matthew Burnett

Megan Burr

John Cannafax

Casey Cappa

Laura Carver

Kyle Champion

Jon Chapman

Hannah Chappell

Jennifer Childers

Louis Chun

Collin Chunn

Hannah Clardy

Katie Cohen

Abigail Colella

Nick Coniglio

Lauren Cook

James Cooper

Sydney Cromwell

John Culpepper

Chase Cunningham

Taylor Dahlgren

Sanjun Dai

Kathleen Danehy

Hayden Davis

Maddie Davis

Maryemeline Dawson

John Dickson

# Howard College of Arts and Sciences

Clarissa Donaldson

Samuel Douglas

Jordan Drake

Marcos Duarte

Veronica Duarte

Blake Dunshee

Jeffrey Dzugan

Chelsey Estes

Sallie Forrester

Bailey Fuqua

Jamie Gragg

Bruce Greer

Courtney Guhl

John Michael Haddad

Julianna Hallman

Layla Hamilton

Emily Hancock

Gina Harwell

Rachael Headley

Joshua Heath

Kevin Helms

Kathryn Henriques

Tanner Hixson

Henry Holcombe

Nicole Huie

John Hunsicker

Lauren Hunt

Roger Ingram

Phoenix Iverson

Thomas Jenkins

Karl Johnson

Anna Jones

Luke Kennedy

Steven Kilmer

Tracy Knapp

Morgan Knight

# Howard College of Arts and Sciences

Amber Kustos

Julie Laforce

Zachary Lamachio

Bailey Lang

Rachel Laster

Anna Lautenschlager

Ian Ledgerwood

Andrew Lee

Hope Lewis

Claude Mapp

Kayla Marx

Christopher Matthews

Abigail McAtee

Melanie McConnell

Olivia McKinley

Anna McLendon

Robert McNeill

Kendall McPheeters

Grace McSween

Derek Mefford

Madison Miles

Rachel Miley

Jared Miller

Mary Katherine Montes De Oca

Jacob Moore

Courtney Morgan

Amanda Moritz

Emily Morse

Stephanie Nash

Melanie Nonnemacher

Jordan Nordenhaug

Nnagniba Ntcha

Carson Obrien

Cherie Olivier

David Osula

Sarah Overby

# Howard College of Arts and Sciences

Ellen Pacsi

Katie Peake

Aaron Pendleton

Mikala Pickens

Taylor Pigman

Annalise Price

Shelby Quattiebaum

Charles Quinn

Patrick Ramsay

Rachel Ray

Allison Reece

Katelin Reed

Michaela Reesor

Haley Rester

Hannah Reynolds

Marjorie Rheney

Dylan Rigg

Meredith Robinson

Emilee Rogers

Baxter Russell

Haynes Russell

Justin Rutledge

Drew Sarette

Emily Sarver

Trent Scarboro

Meg Scott

Richard Shaw

Austin Skinner

Elizabeth Smith

Halley Smith

Nathan Smolin

Samantha Stallings

Rachel Stanback

Eleanor Stenner

Nicole Sullivan

Elizabeth Summerlin

# Howard College of Arts and Sciences

Peng Sun

Christopher Taunton

Rebecca Terrell

Rachel Treadwell

Scott Truelove

Walter Trussell

Cynthia Upton

Joshua Waddell

Julie Wallis

Audrey Ward

Katherine Ward

Cassady Weldon

Keith Whiteneck

Natalie Wilkinson

Sarah Williams

Taylor Williams

Amy Wilson

Chloe Wilson

Emily Wood

Kathryn Woodruff

Katie Woodruff

William Wrenn

Tong Wu

Shuaigi Yang

William Yarborough

Jenna Zimmerman

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Emily Ashworth

Paul Austin

Kelsie Baer

Melissa Belflower

Zachary Bennett

Matthew Bontrager

Jessica Boyd

Andrew Bragg

Bradley Bromelow

Austin Bundy

Caitlin Byrd

John Cannafax

William Cavanaugh

Lan Chen

Chapman Cherry

Christopher Clouser

Kevin Cornman

Joshua Davies

Hunter Denson

Clarissa Donaldson

Kelsey Drennan

Blake Dunshee

Christian Elias

Steven Elseroad

Richard Enger

Kristen Francisco

Kayla Frank

Jamie Gentile

Sarah Goergen

Amy Gonzalez

Rebecca Gornto

William Graham

Cooper Hall

Brent Hansen

# Brock School of Business

Caleb Harper

Anthony Hauguel

Brandon Hayman

Gardner Heaner

Patrick Hennessy

Kathryn Henriques

Christopher Hinson

Ethan Howard

Ting Hu

Clay Hubbard

Jennifer Hughes

Clay Johnson

Matthew Johnson

Matthew Johnson

Robert Kelly

Madison Kerns

Garrison Laduca

Luke Leeth

Forrest Lewis

Amber Lockwood

Jennifer Lorentz

Mark Lupul

McDavid Maddox

Barlow Marriott

Madison McBrayer

Kathryn McDonnell

Connor McLarren

Zhaoxi Meng

Katelyn Merren

Emily Miller

Caison Moore

Archie Morris

Michael Naro

Stephen Newton

Chase Owen

Caroline Payne

# Brock School of Business

Austin Person

Brinson Porter

Laura Price

Andrew Pritchett

Kelsey Robinson

Marc Salyers

Lauren Sampson

Brian Saunders

Selina Schirmer

Madison Schneider

Carey Scruggs

Katherine Sharpton

Jonathan Sillers

Sean Slattery

Evan Smeltzer

Caleb Smith

Victoria Smith

Alexander Snow

Sacha Stikeleather

Lauren Strickland

Rebekah Talley

Laura Tedford

Robert Thornton

Walter Trussell

Gui Wang

Cassandra Watkins

Anna Weathington

Nichol Welty

Daniel White

Lauren White

Elbert Whitmire

Thomas Wilkinson

Bobby Wilson

Eric Wright

Chen Ge Yang

Yang Zhao

# Brock School of Business

Scott Zimmerman

# College of Health Sciences

Alli Adams

Jessica Adams

Kari Adams

Zachary Adams

Bethany Adkins

Sheila Alexander

Morgan Alford

Maria Arochamichelli

Sophia Artusa

Jason Asher

Shelley Austin

Heather Bailey

Joshua Baker

Zachary Barnett

Abby Barrett

Karen Barrow

Grant Barry

Lesa Beaver

Casey Bell

Amy Bennett

Frances Bernard

Morgan Biddy

Dorothy Bizzell

Kimberly Boackle

# College of Health Sciences

Allison Bond

Elizabeth Bordoni

Richard Bowen

Caitlin Bowman

Morgan Boyd

Lenora Bradshaw

Lucy Breault

Gina Briscoe

Katina Briscoe

Emily Bromley

Ryan Brooksbank

Hannah Brown

Lynn Brown

Kayla Burch

Rebeccah Burgess

Jodie Carpenter

Angela Cave

Anna Maria Ceravolo

Pamela Cherry

Elizabeth Christy

Kelvin Clay

Robert Cleghorn

Phillip Clickner

Margaret Coffman

Rebecca Cofield

Abby Cohron

Katherine Combs

Kate Cox

Lilly Crain

Mallory Cranor

Rebecca Criswell

Aubree Davis

Jennifer Day

Helen Dean

Tyler Deboer

Kathy Floyd Decant

# College of Health Sciences

Brian Dickson

Kiersten Diquollo

Sarah Ann Driscoll

Kelli Dunagan

Tiffany Dupree

Bob Elliott Ii

Bradley Elliott

Caroline Ellis

Grace Ellis

Audra Ernest

Shannon Evins

Hannah Faulkner

Ahmad Fawaz

Hannah Ficarino

Matthew Filoon

Marissa Fitzgerald

Geraldine Flanagan

Brooke Flohr

Christopher Forbes

Caroline Fowler

Cherika Gadson

Rebecca Gander

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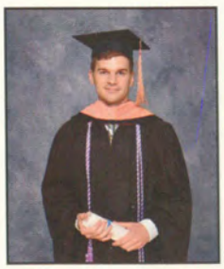
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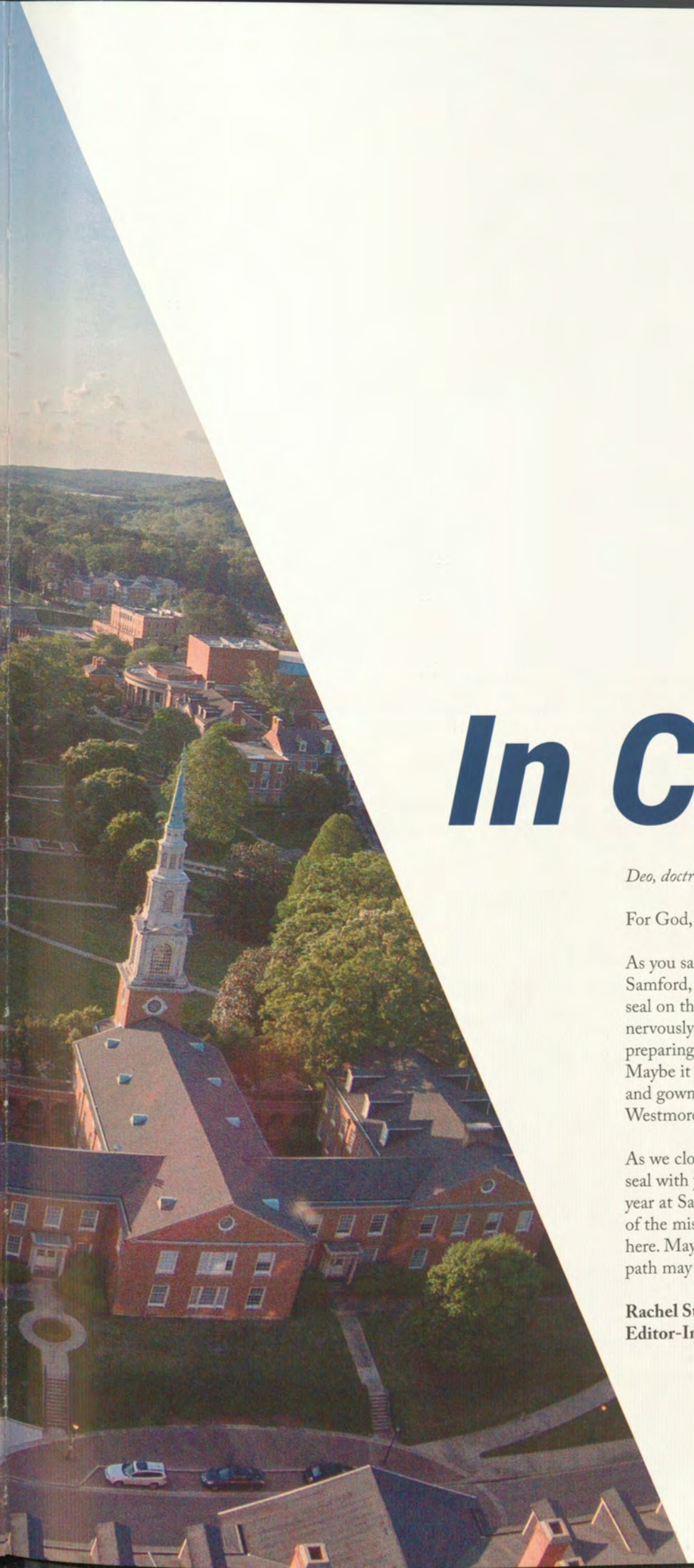

# In Closing

*Deo, doctrinae, aeternitati.*

For God, for learning, forever.

As you sat in the Wright Center at some point during your time at Samford, you might have noticed these words on the university's seal on the podium. Maybe it was on a hot summer day, when you nervously arrived and picked up your nametag for orientation, preparing to meet new friends and register for your first classes. Maybe it was at the close of the year, and you donned your cap and gown and beamed as you walked across the stage to shake Dr. Westmoreland's hand and close a chapter of your Samford story.

As we close this book, may you carry the mission printed on that seal with you when you leave this place. Whether this was your first year at Samford or your last, we hope this book serves as a reminder of the mission of this place and the memories of the people you met here. May you carry your Samford memories with you wherever your path may lead.

**Rachel Stanback and Madison Miles**
**Editor-In-Chief and Art Director**

Photo by Tate Holcombe

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